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BOROUGH OF DARWEN.



REPORT

OF

James Robertson,

M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health,

AND

Medical Officer to the Education Committee,

FOR THE

Year ending December 31st, 1925.

DARWEN:
PRINTED AT THE "NEWS" OFFICE.
—
MCMXXVI.



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Public Health Dept.,

Darwen.

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HEALTH OFFICE,

DARWEN,

April, 1926.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

It affords me pleasure in present ng to you my THIRD ANNUAL REPORT, which is also the FORTY-EIGHTH REPORT since the incorporation of the Borough.

I take this opportunity of thanking all the Members of my Staff for their willing co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES ROBERTSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Members of the Health Committee

1925-1926.

* COUNCILLOR W. KNOWLES, J.P., MAYOR.

Chairman :

* ALDERMAN W. WORTH, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

* ALDERMAN G. P. HOLDEN, J.P.

ALDERMAN J. COCKER, J.P.	COUNCILLOR R. ECCLES.
,, H. C. JEPSON.	,, T. W. A. FORREST, M.B.E. J.P., C.C.
,, J. PICKUP, J.P.	,, J. V. HARGREAVES.
,, JOHN B. THORNLEY, J.P.	,, *W. JEPSON.
COUNCILLOR WM. AINSWORTH, J.P.	,, W. KNOWLES, J.P.
,, J. ASPDEN.	,, E. LEACH.
,, *DR. G. W. BURY.	,, *R. MARSDEN.
,, E. L. CARUS, J.P.	,, G. PICKUP, J.P.
,, *F. C. DUCKWORTH.	,, *W. A. SHEPHERD.
,, A. DUCKWORTH.	,, D. SMITH.
,, H. B. ECCLES, J.P.	,, A. J. WATSON.

* MEMBER OF HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE.

TOWN CLERK ..... HARRY ROTHWELL.

Staff of the Health Department.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH .....
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER .....
MEDICAL OFFICER OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL
— JAMES ROBERTSON, M.B., M.S. D.P.H.

SANITARY INSPECTORS.. .....
(South Division)—W. E. MARSDEN, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.
(North Division)—C. R. WALSH, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I.
Appointed Senior Sanitary Inspector, February, 1923, Public Health (Officers) Act, 1921.

VETERINARY OFFICER.. ..... J. W. MARSLAND, M.R.C.V.S.

SLAUGHTER HOUSE AND MEAT INSPECTOR.....C. R WALSH, CERTIF. MEAT INSP.

SHOPS INSPECTOR .....W. E. MARSDEN.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCAVENGING.....JOSEPH NICCOLL.

MATRON, INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL..... MISS E. ANTHONY, R.R.C.

HEALTH VISITORS.....
..... MRS. H. H. SHAWCROSS, CERTIFIED MIDWIFE.
.....MISS E. WORTH, CERTIFIED MIDWIFE, CERT. H.V.

CLERKS..... F. LITTLECOTT, A.R.S.I., AND E. MCGLYNN

REPORT.

This Report is a Survey Report as required by the Ministry of Health.

AREA (Acres), 5,919.

POPULATION : Census (1921), 38,720. Estimated (1925), 38,850.

Population in Wards.

Wards.	Census, 1921 (Estimated).	(Estimated) 1925.
CENTRAL	6,314	6,334
WEST CENTRAL	3,474	3,485
NORTH-EAST	9,013	9,044
NORTH-WEST	6,948	6,970
SOUTH-EAST	6,850	6,873
SOUTH-WEST	6,121	6,144
TOTAL	38,720	38,850

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF AREA.

The town of Darwen is situated in a valley, Latitude 53° 41′ 25″ N. and Longitude 2° 28′ 32″ W., and runs almost due north and south, being about five miles in extent, on the highway between Blackburn on the north and Bolton on the south. The centre of the town stands 500 feet above sea level, the higher parts of the town reaching over 800 feet above sea level, its situation favouring the free circulation of air and free exposure to sunlight.

The River Darwen runs northward through the valley.

The soil on which the town is built consists of boulder clay overlying the sandstone or shale of the coal measures. In the middle of the valley along the riverside, gravel and sand form the subsoil, the land rises up on each side of the moorland, that on the West side forming the gathering ground.

There is only one district of any importance, viz., Hoddlesden, situate at a distance of two miles to the East, with a population of about 720.

The inhabitants are chiefly of the artisan and labouring classes. The chief occupations include Cotton Weaving, Paper Making, Fire Clay and Iron Workers.

Number of inhabited houses (1921), 10,082 ; (1925), 10,249.

Number of families or separate occupiers (1921), 10,145.

Rateable Value, £219,779 5s. 0d.

Sum represented by a penny rate, £834.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.

	Total.	Males.	Females.	Birth Rate.
BIRTHS—Legitimate	531 ...	267 ...	274 ...	
Illegitimate	15 ...	10 ...	5 ...	14.05
	546 ...	277 ...	279 ...	

	Total.	Males.	Females.	Death Rate.
DEATHS	549 ...	276 ...	273 ...	14.13

Standardizing factor 1.020. Corrected Death Rate—14.41 per 1,000.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of Child-birth :—From sepsis, 0 ; from other causes, 6.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births :—Total, 65 (Rate 119) ; Legitimate, 63 (Rate 115) ; Illegitimate, 2 (Rate 133).

Deaths from Measles (all ages), 16.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), 4.

Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age), 4.

Specify any unusual or excessive mortality during the year which has received or required comment :—None.

RATES PER 1,000 OF POPULATION.

	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Death Rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	Rate of Deaths under 1 Year to 1000 Births
Mean of 10 years, 1915-24...	15,36	14.65	0.66	87
1924	16.28	14.90	0.53	67
1925	14.05	14.13	0.64	119
Increase or Decrease in 1925 on :—				
Ten Years' Average	−1.31	−0.52	−0.02	+32
Previous year	−2.23	−0.17	+0.11	+52

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1925.

Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1925, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1924. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.

	Birth-Rate per 1000 Total Population.	Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population.									Rate per 1,000 Births.	
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhœa & Enteritis (under Two Years)	Total Deaths under One Year.
England and Wales.....	18.3	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.13	0.03	0.15	0.07	0.32	0.47	8.4	75
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	18.8	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.17	0.03	0.18	0.09	0.30	0.43	10.8	79
157 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000—50,000)	18.3	11.2	0.01	0 00	0.15	0.02	0.14	0.06	0.31	0.38	7.6	74
London	18.0	11.7	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.02	0.19	0.11	0.23	0.46	10.6	67
Darwen	14.0	14.1	0.00	0.00	0.41	0.00	0.10	0.05	0.33	0.54	7.3	119

Marriages.

The number of Marriages solemnized in Darwen during the year ending December 31st, 1925, was as follows :—

Church of England	137
Nonconformist Places of Worship	137
Total	274

This means that 548 people were united in the bonds of wedlock, and is at the rate of 14.10 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 15.41 per 1,000 in the previous year.

Year.	Births.		Deaths.		Marriages.	
	Number	Rate.	Number	Rate.	Number.	Rate.
1916	562	13.91	545	14.68	510	13.7
1917	427	11.18	490	14.29	390	21.3
1918	353	9.58	692	21.08	472	12.8
1919	495	12.61	520	13 80	994	25.3
1920	845	21.56	510	13.01	1068	27.2
1921	753	19.44	448	11.57	736	19.0
1922	674	17 37	561	14.45	726	18.7
1923	602	15.44	528	13.54	648	16.6
1924	636	16.28	582	14.90	602	15.4
1925	546	14.05	549	14.13	548	14.1
Average 10 Years...	589	15.14	542	14.54	669	18.4

Births.

The number of Children born during the year was : Males 277, Females 269, making a total of 546 ; being 90 less than in the previous twelve months, and at the rate of 2.23 per 1,000 lower than in 1924.

The Birth Rate for year was 14.05 per 1,000. The highest monthly Birth Rate was 17.91 in January and also October, and in July it was the lowest, the figure being 9.88 per 1,000.

TABLE showing the Estimated Populations, Number of Births, and the Birth-Rates for the Darwen Sanitary District for the last Ten Years.

Year.	Estimated Population at the Middle of Each Year.	Total Births.	Birth-Rate
1916	40,381	562	13.91
1917	38,210	447	11.18
1918	36,814	353	9.58
1919	39,252	495	12.61
1920	39,182	845	21.56
1921	38,720	753	19.44
1922	38,800	674	17.37
1923	38,980	602	15.44
1924	39,060	636	16.28
1925	38,850	546	14.05

Average Birth Rate for the last 10 years, 15.14.

BIRTH-RATES IN THE VARIOUS WARDS.

Year.	C.	W.C.	N.E.	N.W.	S.E.	S.W.	Borough.
1916	14.10	9.97	14.98	11.05	14.64	17.26	13.91
1917	11.82	10.54	13.74	8.75	10.27	11.11	11.18
1918	8.74	9.81	10.15	9.08	9.54	10.17	9.58
1919	12.30	12.36	14.74	9.39	14.17	12.27	12.61
1920	22.43	18.71	24.90	17.51	22.76	21.23	21.56
1921	22.33	18.13	21.74	14.82	20.14	18.29	19.44
1922	18.01	17.81	19.48	15.51	15.44	17.60	17.37
1923	17.14	16.29	16 32	12.15	15.97	15.09	15.44
1924	16.17	18.83	16.16	13.84	19.24	14.57	16.28
1925	14.84	12.33	17 91	10.90	14.40	11.71	14.05
Averages for 10 Years.	15.78	14.47	17.01	12.30	15.65	14.93	15.14

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

Fifteen Children were born out of wedlock during the year. This gives a rate of 2.74 per cent. of total births. Since 1916 the average annual number is 24.

The rate per cent. of Births averages 2.74, and 1922 is the highest with 5.48.

The Infantile Mortality Rate of Illegitimates for the year was 133, and the average for the last 10 years was 133.

TABLE showing number of Illegitimate Births, Etc., during the past Ten years.

Year.	Number of Births.	Rate % of Total Births.	No. of Deaths under 1 Year.	Death-rate per 1,000 Births.
1916	27	4.80	0	0
1917	17	3.96	2	118
1918	16	4.53	3	188
1919	22	4.44	5	227
1920	35	4.14	6	171
1921	34	4.52	3	88
1922	37	5.48	6	162
1923	20	3.32	4	200
1924	23	3.61	1	43
1925	15	2.74	2	133
Average	24	4.15	3	133

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

	Number	Percentage of Births.
JANUARY	1	1.72
FEBRUARY	0	0.00
MARCH	0	0.00
APRIL	1	2.00
MAY	1	2.12
JUNE	1	2.32
JULY	0	0.00
AUGUST	0	0.00
SEPTEMBER	2	5.00
OCTOBER	0	0.00
NOVEMBER	2	5.00
DECEMBER	7	14.59
	15	2.71

BIRTHS IN WARDS, 1925.

	Central.		West-Central.		North-East.		North-West.		South-East.		South-West.		Total.		Rate per 1,000 estimated Population
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
January	2	5	1	5	7	9	3	7	5	5	3	6	21	37	17.91
February	1	2	2	3	4	5	3	4	3	0	4	3	17	17	10.50
March	7	1	0	1	8	9	2	2	7	8	1	5	25	26	15.75
April	6	3	5	2	7	12	3	0	3	2	3	4	27	23	15.44
May	4	9	3	2	5	6	3	2	2	5	6	0	23	24	14.51
June	1	5	3	1	8	13	2	0	4	0	4	2	22	21	13.28
July	2	3	2	0	4	6	2	4	3	3	2	1	15	17	9.88
August	4	7	1	1	9	5	4	1	6	5	2	0	26	19	13.89
September	4	4	1	1	6	5	3	5	4	1	2	4	20	20	12.35
October	5	2	0	4	7	7	2	7	9	6	4	5	27	31	17.91
November	5	2	0	1	5	7	3	7	0	7	1	2	14	26	12.35
December	8	2	4	0	7	1	6	1	8	3	7	1	40	8	14.82
	49	45	22	21	77	85	36	40	54	45	39	33	277	269	14.05
TOTAL	94		43		162		76		99		72		546		
Population	6,334		3,485		9,044		6,970		6,873		6,144		38,850		
Birth-rate	14.84		12.33		17.91		10.90		14.40		11.71		14.05		

Deaths.

The total number of Deaths during the year was 549; males 276, females 273; being a decrease of 33 on the previous year.

The Death Rate for the year is 14.13, a decrease of 0.77 on the previous year.

The number of Deaths of Residents in Institutions, etc., outside the district was 100, which has been added to the 449 deaths registered within the district, making a total of 549.

These Deaths are reported to me quarterly by the Registrar General, through the County Medical Officer of Health.

The number of Deaths in the Union Workhouse, Blackburn, was ... 47
,, ,, ,, Royal Infirmary, Blackburn 34
,, ,, ,, other Institutions and Places 19

Eighteen Deaths of Non-Residents occurred in the town during the year.

INQUESTS.

There were 26 Inquests held during the year, compared with 28 during 1924. The following were the verdicts :—

	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Accidental Death.	20	15	16	12	17	12	15	12	16	12
Natural Causes .	6	3	8	12	14	9	8	18	11	7
Suicide	4	4	2	2	9	4	5	7	1	7
	30	22	26	26	40	25	28	37	28	26

Death-Rates per 1,000 of the Population in the various Wards of the Borough.

Wards Population	Central 6334	West-Central 3485	North-East 9044	North-West 6970	South-East 6873	South-West 6144	Borough 38850
1925							
January..	13.26	17.21	7.96	10.33	10.47	21.48	12.66
February	7.57	20.66	13.26	17.21	10.47	11.71	12.97
March	22.73	30.99	15.91	24.10	15.71	15.62	19.76
April.....	20.84	13.77	11.94	12.05	8.72	15.62	13.59
May	17.05	20.66	9 28	10.33	8.72	19.53	13.28
June	3.78	6.88	15.91	6.88	8.72	3.90	8.33
July	1 89	6.88	15.91	8.60	6.98	17.57	10.19
August	11.36	3.44	2.65	6.88	10.47	9.76	7.40
September ...	9.47	6.88	10.61	6.88	1.74	7.81	7.40
October.....	3.78	0.00	5.30	15.63	10.47	13.67	8.39
November... ..	15 15	10.33	10.61	6.88	6.98	15.62	10.81
December.....	17.05	10.33	7.96	18.93	12.22	15.62	13.59
Transfers.....	34.10	51.65	35.82	24 10	24.44	23.43	30.88
Rate for year...	14.84	16.64	13.60	14.06	11.35	15.95	14.13

Death Rates in the Various Wards for the past Ten Years.

Year	C.	W.C.	N.E.	N.W.	S.E.	S.W.	Borough.
1916	17.34	13.99	15.85	15.48	12.01	12.66	14.68
1917	15.35	9.80	17.68	12.88	13.01	14.26	14.29
1918	21.67	20.46	23.60	16.19	21.25	22.81	21.08
1919	14.13	11.89	16.31	12.14	12.58	14.32	13.80
1920	14.53	12.73	13.30	11.40	13.01	12.80	13.01
1921	13.30	12.09	12.75	12.08	8.46	10.61	11.57
1922	15.48	15.22	14.28	15.80	11.94	14.50	14.45
1923	14.15	12.58	12.56	15.01	14.93	11.67	13.54
1924	14.91	23.97	13.30	17.69	13.89	12.14	14.90
1925	14.84	16.64	13.60	14.06	11.35	15.95	14.13
Average...	15.57	14.93	15.32	14.27	13.24	14.17	14.54

CAUSES OF DEATH IN DARWEN, M.B., 1925.

Causes of Death (Civilians only).	Males.	Females.
All Causes.	276	273
1. Enteric Fever	—	—
2. Small Pox	—	—
3. Measles	7	9
4. Scarlet Fever	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	2	2
6. Diphtheria	1	1
7. Influenza	6	7
8. Encephalitis Lethargica	1	2
9. Meningococcal Meningitis	—	1
10. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	15	10
11. Other Tuberculous Diseases	3	4
12. Cancer, malignant disease	29	39
13. Rheumatic Fever	—	2

Causes of Death (continued).	Males.	Females.
14. Diabetes	2	1
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	17	20
16. Heart Disease	26	26
17. Arterio-sclerosis	13	11
18. Bronchitis	20	22
19. Pneumonia (all forms)	46	24
20. Other Respiratory Diseases	3	3
21. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	6	1
22. Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	2	2
23. Appendicitis and Typhlitis	2	2
24. Cirrhosis of Liver	—	—
25. Acute and Chronic Nephritis	13	8
26. Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
27. Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition	—	6
28. Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	14	10
29. Suicide	3	4
30. Other Deaths from violence	9	5
31. Other defined diseases	36	49
32. Causes ill-defined or unknown	—	2
Special Causes (included above)—		
Poliomyelitis	—	—
Polioencephalitis	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—		
Total	32	33
Illegitimate	—	2
Total Births	277	269
Legitimate	267	264
Illegitimate	10	5

Population ..... 38,850.

The death-rate for the year was 14.13 per 1,000.

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.

1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
1.9	2.0	1.2	1.7	1.9	2.2	1.1	2.1	2.2	1.6	2.08	2.34	2.90	2.14	1.03	0.76	2.07	1.00	1.14
1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
0.69	0.76	1.10	0.51	1.51	0.86	0.27	0.44	1.42	0.54	0.32	0.42	0.19	0.12	0.12	0.64	0.07	0.20	0.66

No information has been received from the Poor Law Authorities regarding the amount of Poor Law Relief given in Darwen during the year.

Mr. J. Pomfret, financial secretary to the District Nursing Association, has kindly supplied me with the following particulars :—

	Gross Income.				Net. Expenditure.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
1924	2,637	13	4	.....	2,545	1	4	
1925	2,075	9	5	.....	1,891	10	9	

An Orthopædic Clinic for treatment of cases has been established in connection with this Association.

The Blackburn and East Lancashire Royal Infirmary is an Institution standing at the Southern end of the neighbouring Borough of Blackburn.

Every case sent from Darwen is admitted.

The Secretary, Mr. Nathan A. Smith supplied the following information of patients from Darwen treated in this Institution.

	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
In-Patients	259	281	247	276	345	356	360	394	400	403	427
Out-Patients	565	621	623	663	722	700	756	766	822	824	832

Based upon the ordinary expenditure for the year, the Cost of Treatment of these Patients for the year 1925 was £3,248.

There have been no causes of sickness or invalidity worthy of special note during the period under review. No conditions of employment or environment appear to have had a prejudicial effect on health.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

For Smallpox—Two beds at Rough Height Farm House.

For other Infectious Diseases—Scarlet Fever, 1 block, 20 beds ; for Typhoid Fever 8 beds at Bull Hill Hospital.

These properties are owned by the Corporation.

The Typhoid Fever block at Bull Hill Hospital is loaned to the Lancashire County Council for the treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

During the year 21 cases of Scarlet Fever, 3 of Typhoid Fever, and 1 of Erysipelas were admitted to the Hospital.

There is accommodation provided at Bull Hill Hospital for the treatment of Tuberculosis. The patients are admitted through the Lancashire County Tuberculosis Committee.

During the year 58 patients were sent by the County Committee to Bull Hill Sanatorium.

There is no hospital accommodation (locally) for the treatment of maternity cases, or for children's ailments. The Queen's Park Hospital, Blackburn, is the Union Infirmary for Darwen, etc., and admits maternity and other cases from Darwen as required. The only other public institution in the immediate vicinity is the Royal Infirmary, which stands at the Southern end of the neighbouring County Borough of Blackburn.

There is no Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless children, in the town, other than sending them into Queen's Park Hospital, Blackburn.

Two Maternity and Child Welfare Centres have been established. One at No. 43, Bolton Road, is open daily from 9 to 10 a.m. and 4-30 to 5-30 p.m. Special afternoon sessions are held every Tuesday and Wednesday from 2-30 to 5 p.m. The other Centre is at Greenfield Institute and an afternoon session is held on Thursdays from 2-30 to 5 p.m.

We have no Day Nursery.

There is one School Clinic (at Holker House), established and maintained by the local Education Authority.

At 20, Railway Road, Darwen, there is a Tuberculosis Dispensary, under the direct control of the Lancashire County Council, where patients attend for examination once each week.

Venereal Diseases are treated at Blackburn Royal Infirmary.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

For the removal of Infectious cases we have one horse-drawn ambulance. For non-infectious and accident cases a motor ambulance is available at Mr. H. Harwood's Station Garage in agreement with the Town Council and during 1925 was called out on 243 occasions.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

Arrangements in the district for—(a) General Nursing. There is a District Nursing Association in the town employing about six nurses. Districts are allotted to these nurses. They attend the sick and carry out the physicians instructions. (b) For Infectious Diseases the Council make a grant to the said District Nursing Association of £10 10s. 0d. and pay 1/- per nursing visit for attendance upon cases of Puerperal Fever, Pneumonia (in children up to 5 years' old), Infantile Diarrhœa, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, and Anterior Poliomyelitis.

The Local Authority has instituted a scheme for the supply of milk for necessitous infants and expectant and nursing mothers. During 1925 free grants in necessitous cases were made as follows :—

Milk value £27 19s. 9d., Dried Milk £7 10s. 3d., a total of £35 10s. 0d.

Midwives.—None employed by the Local Authority.

On the County Council Register there are 16 Midwives, all of whom are practising in the Borough.

Of the Midwives practising in the Borough fourteen of them are trained and hold Certificates, whilst two are Registered but untrained.

The number of midwives practising is sufficient for the district.

CHEMICAL WORK.

The two Sanitary Inspectors, each in their own district, take samples of water and milk for analysis that is thought necessary. During the year 15 samples of cows milk have been taken and one of water. All were reported as being genuine and satisfactory by the Public Analyst.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

		Operative from
Local Acts	Darwen Corporation Act .	1887.
	Darwen Corporation Act .	1899.
Local Orders	Darwen Order	1912.
General Adoptive Acts ...	Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890 (Certain Sections)	27th October, 1890.
	The Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890 (Certain Sections)	27th October, 1900.
	Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907 (Certain Sections)	15th January, 1912.
Bye-laws relating to Public Health	Nuisances Snow, filth, dust, ashes, rubbish, keeping of animals	3rd March, 1881.
	Slaughterhouses	3rd March, 1881.
	Common Lodging Houses.	3rd March, 1881.
	Prevention of waste, misuse or contamination of water	5th June, 1891.
	Public Slaughterhouses ...	9th April, 1896.

All the powers granted under the various Acts and Orders are put into operation when necessary. We have no difficulty in getting the public to comply with our requests. This is evidenced by the fact that no prosecutions were undertaken.

CO-OPERATION WITH MEDICAL AND ANCILLARY SERVICES, ETC.

The Medical men work in complete amity with the Health Department, and help us in every way in regard to our work.

In regard to Voluntary Hospitals a well arranged scheme of workmen's weekly contributions has been formulated. The collections from this are paid to a Central Fund Committee. This Committee allocates the fund to the hospitals and also the District Nursing Associations in Blackburn, Darwen, etc., thereby securing attention to any medical or surgical requirement.

The Poor Law Authorities work amicably with us in regard to any cases referred to them.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water is collected mostly from Moorland, and is of good quality.

The service is a constant one.

The approximate number of dwellinghouses supplied direct is 10,249. There is no supply by stand pipe.

There is no possibility of contamination in the vicinity of dwellinghouses.

There is no liability to plumbo-solvent action as the water is first treated and the lead supply pipes are tin washed.

There is no insufficiency.

No extensions were required during the year.

The amount used during the year was 372,054,000 gallons ; 52,162,000 being for trade purposes, the remainder for domestic use at the rate of 22.5 gallons per head per day.

The total Rainfall for the year on the Watershed was 51.56 inches, and in Bold Venture Park 52.72 inches. We had rain on 227 days.

The heaviest Rainfall was in February with 8.98 inches, and the lowest in June, with 0.26 inches.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The river is regularly sampled for pollution. Inspections are also made by the Sanitary Inspectors. It appears to me necessary that paving of the river bed should be seriously considered.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The Bacteriological method is the one in use for the treatment of sewage, and appears to be efficient.

The Drainage system of the town is the one known as the combined system. There has been no new development in the system during the year, apart from the necessary cleansing and repairs.

There are a few scattered houses situated in outlying parts of the town to which our drainage system has not yet been extended. These houses are still on the pail system and necessitate the collection and removal of the excreta by the Local Authority.

The Water and Smoke tests are applied to drains.

Sewers are frequently flushed.

CLOSETS AND ASHPITS.

The following constitutes the accommodation in this respect at the end of the year in question

Pails	214
Water Closets	8311
Waste Water Closets	2396
Cesspools	2
Total	10923

Conversions and Installations during 1925 :—

New Water Closets fixed	110
Premises with one New Closet fixed	90
Premises with more than one New Closet fixed	5
Pails converted to Water Closets	128
Waste Water Closets converted to Water Closets	26
Baths installed during the year	125
Urinals installed during the year	10

Comparative Conversions :—

	During year 1925.	During Five Years 1921-1925.
No. of Privy Closets—		
To Fresh W.C.'s	—	—
To Waste W.C.'s		—
To Pails, etc.	—	—
No. of Pail Closets—		
To Fresh W.C.'s	128	1515
To Waste W.C.'s		—
No. of Waste W.C.'s to Fresh W.C.'s	26	75
No. of Houses at which Moveable Ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles	3	3

There are 12 Dry Ashpits and 10,663 portable refuse receptacles, the majority of which are ashes tubs and placed under covered sheds in the yards.

The Corporation under the provisions of a Local Act contribute half cost of conversions of pails to fresh water closet. In new property only fresh water closets are allowed to be fixed.

The Pail Closets still left are outside the sewered areas of the Borough and cannot be dealt with at present.

We have no privy middens.

SCAVENGING.

The Scavenging and collection of House refuse is efficiently carried out by the Sanitary Authority.

We have only one motor vehicle the rest being horse drawn.

House refuse is burnt in a Me'drum's Destructor which is situated near the Electricity Works.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

No. of premises visited :—3,740.

Defects or Nuisances :—No. discovered, 1,187 ; No. abated, 1,036.

No. of Notices served :—Informal, 981 ; Statutory, 490.

Legal Proceedings : —Nil.

For details refer to pages 55 and 68.

SMOKE NUISANCE.

Advice has frequently been given to furnacemen in regard to the methods of stoking.

The Inspectors took 104 observations, each of one hour's duration, during the year.

It was not necessary to institute legal proceedings but two statutory notices were served upon the occupiers of mills for emissions of Black Smoke in excess of the time limit.

The time limit allowed per hour, for the emission of Black Smoke is as follows :—One, two or three boilers, 5 minutes per hour. Four or more boilers, 7 minutes per hour.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Three firms carry on offensive trades within the Borough, i.e., Tripe Boiling and Gut Scraping. The conduct of the trade is carried out satisfactorily in each case.

WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

The Workshops and Workplaces are on the whole in a fairly good condition.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

The Municipal Model Lodging House is the only common lodging house in the town, and is frequently visited and inspected by Inspector Walsh.

The average daily number of lodgers for the year was 105.67, including women, as compared with 95.37 for the previous year, an increase of 10.30.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

During 1925 no action was taken respecting the above. It is proposed to frame byelaws for approval by the Ministry of Health, in accordance with the Public Health Act, 1925.

SCHOOLS.

The condition of the Schools on the whole is good, the water supply, etc., being also good.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION PROVISIONAL CODE, 1922.

AMENDING REGULATIONS No. 2, 1924.

Owing to the prevalence of epidemic illness at the undermentioned Schools, it was necessary for me to certify and recommend that the attendances should be marked "Rule 23, Exception 2."

Name of School.	Date. From.	To.	Reason.	
Highfield Council Infants.	April 1st	April 27th.	Measles, Chicken Pox, Mumps.	
St. James' C. of E. Infants	June 15th	July 9th.	Do.	Do.
St. James' C. of E. Infants	Oct. 28th	Nov. 24th.	Do.	Do.
Earcroft C. of E.	April 1st	April 9th.	Do.	Do.
St. Edward's R.C. Infants	May 22nd	June 5th.	Do.	Do.
St. George's C. of E. Infants	May 4th	May 29th.	Do.	Do.
St. George's C. of E. Infants	June 2nd	June 5th.	Do.	Do.

It was necessary to close St. Joseph's Infants School entirely on account of Mumps from 3rd February to 23rd February, 1925.

The Schools are inspected by the Sanitary Inspectors four times per annum during the holiday periods. At these periods the floors and furniture are washed and the walls are swept ; all lavatories are specially attended to and limewashed.

Housing.

GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS IN THE AREA.

The houses are mostly built of stone. The newly-built houses are, however, of brick. There are a few houses in certain areas of the town which require much repairing to keep them in reasonable order. Generally the houses are of a good quality both in building and accommodation.

Estimating for displacements that may occur in the poorest part of the town we calculate that about 150 houses may be required.

Building is at present being conducted by the Corporation, Darwen Industrial Co-operative Society Ltd., Spring Vale Garden Village Co., Ltd., and several local contractors.

There has been no important change in the population during the period of review nor is any anticipated in the future.

OVERCROWDING.

In the poorer districts of town young married people of poorer classes tend to rent rooms rather than rent a house and pay for such rooms more than the rent of a house. No definite case of overcrowding has come to our notice.

Cases have been reported to us ; but when measurements of houses have been taken, we have found no evidence of overcrowding.

FITNESS OF HOUSES.

The general standard of housing in the area is good.

The general character of defects found to exist in unfit houses are dampness, imperfect ventilation, and defective windows.

The majority of the property in the town is tenant-owned.

In the poorer parts of the town the type of tenant occupying these houses in many cases causes destruction to property. It is also in regard to this type of house that landlords are reluctant to spend much money on their repair. We, however, after consultation with the owners find no difficulty in inducing them to carry out our requirements.

GENERAL ACTION TAKEN AS REGARDS UNFIT HOUSES.

Under the Public Health Acts action is mostly taken under Sections 91 and 46 of the Public Health Act, 1875.

Under the Housing Acts one case under Section 3 of the 1925 Act is being complied with.

We have no difficulties in remedying unfitness either under the Public Health Acts or under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

No special action is required to secure improved management of property by owners.

To ensure better care of property by tenants, notices are occasionally posted in water closet buildings warning the tenants against the improper use of same. Advice is also given to tenants by the Sanitary Inspectors, Health Visitors and School Nurse.

Owners are met by amicable arrangement where difficulty arises in carrying out necessary work.

Back-to-back houses are few in numbers. These houses are regularly inspected and kept in as good a sanitary condition as it is possible to keep them.

Water supply as affecting housing is good.

Closet accommodation is now good.

Refuse disposal is good.

One hundred and twenty-eight pail closets were converted to the water carriage system during 1925.

UNHEALTHY AREAS.

An official inquiry was held regarding an Unhealthy Area Representation (made during 1924) on February 26th, 1925. The plan of the area, giving the result of the inquiry, is submitted with this report.

Byelaws are now under consideration under the Public Health Act, 1925.

These byelaws are required because of the sub-letting of rooms in the poorer localities.

GENERAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

People have been advised throughout the year by Popular Lectures, also home visiting, and advice given by the Sanitary Inspectors, Health Visitors and School Nurse regarding general home hygiene.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR, 1925.

No. of new houses erected during year—	
(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	50
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts—	
(i.) By the Local Authority	21
(ii.) By other bodies or persons	27
No. of houses in course of erection under Council's Building Scheme ...	18

Financial assistance for purposes of increasing housing accommodation—

Have any advances been made during 1925—
(a) By loans? No. No. —. Amount of Loans, Nil.
(b) By subsidy? Yes. No. 57. Amount of Subsidies, £6,127 10s. 0d.

UNFIT DWELLINGHOUSES.

Inspection— (1) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	3149
(2) No. of dwellinghouses which were inspected under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	153
(3) No. of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	70
(4) No. of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under 3) found not to be in all respect reasonably fit for human habitation	17

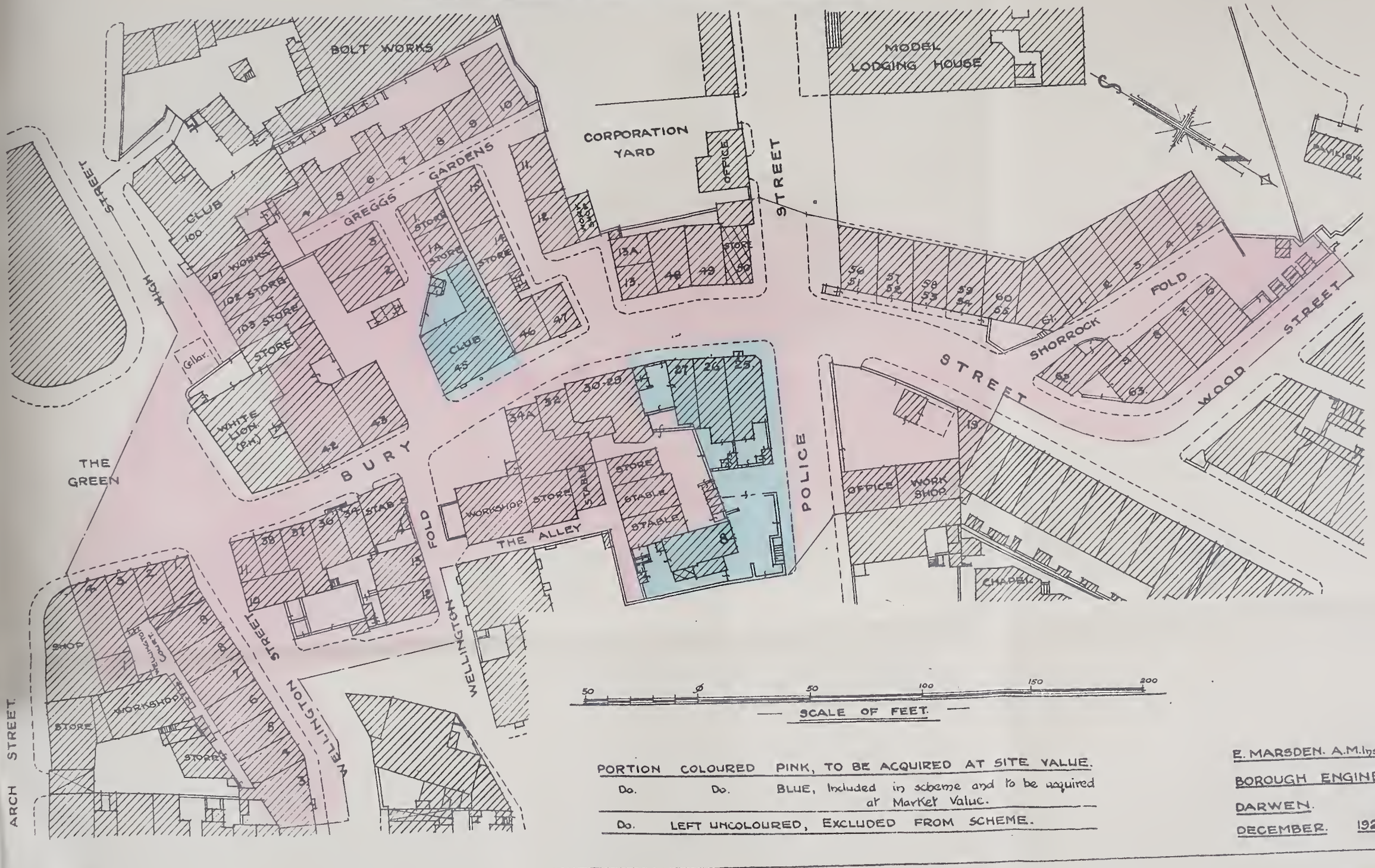
REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OR FORMAL NOTICES.

No. of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	12

BOROUGH OF DARWEN.

UNHEALTHY AREA - BURY STREET.

PLAN SHEWING AREA OF SCHEME.



PORTION COLOURED PINK, TO BE ACQUIRED AT SITE VALUE.

Do. Do. BLUE, Included in scheme and to be acquired at Market Value.

Do. LEFT UNCOLOURED, EXCLUDED FROM SCHEME.

E. MARSDEN. A.M.Inst.C.E.
BOROUGH ENGINEER.
DARWEN.
DECEMBER. 1925.

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925

(1) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2) No. of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(3) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declaration by owners of intention to close	0

B.—*Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

(1) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	38
(2) No. of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	31
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925—

(1) No. of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	1
(2) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(3) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwellinghouses having been rendered fit	0
(4) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(5) No. of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders (Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909)	1

D.—No. of houses demolished voluntarily by owners, or converted to workshops, etc. 2

* Refers only to action taken in reference to housing defects.

Notices with regard to drainage and other defects should be included under Sanitary Inspections.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

The milk supplied in Darwen is of good quality.

The farms are regularly inspected and the farmers themselves take an interest in general cleanliness. One farmer has now renovated his farm and has been granted permission to sell " Grade A " Milk (April, 1926). It is worthy of note that in this district the Farmers' Association are impressing upon the farmers the need for general cleanliness and hygienic methods in all processes in regard to the milk supply.

The Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, The Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and The Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders are all being complied with according to the various provisions of the Acts.

Under the Milk (Special Designation) Order one Dealer's License to sell " Grade A " (Tuberculin Tested) Milk has been granted.

There has been no refusal or revocation of registration of retailers or of licenses for graded milk.

The Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops are periodically inspected. Their condition is fairly good.

Regulations were made on the 4th April, 1898 ; these are enforced. The cubic capacity mentioned in the Regulations is 600 cubic feet per cow.

There are 88 cowkeepers on the Registers and 31 Dairymen. One hundred and eighty-one Inspections have been made by the Inspectors during the year.

When necessary the veterinary surgeon is called in to inspect dairy cows.

The powers under the Milk and Dairies Act, 1922, and the Tuberculosis Order, 1925, are being applied in respect of Tuberculous Milk and Tuberculous Cattle.

During 1925 we had no occasion to obtain any samples of milk for bacteriological examination.

MEAT.

The Meat Inspector regularly attends at the Slaughterhouses during the times of killing. He inspects all live animals and again inspects them post-mortem. He deals with all diseased conditions found and if in any

doubt as to the condemnation of the whole carcase or any part of such carcase he asks the Medical Officer of Health for his opinion, and if necessary we then refer it to the Veterinary Inspector.

In regard to any extra killing, the butcher or farmer notifies the Meat Inspector, the place, day, and hour, so that the Inspector can be present.

The Meat Inspector reports all cases of tubercular conditions which he finds, to the Medical Officer of Health, who takes any further steps by writing to the Authority concerned. Should any farmer in this Borough be involved, the Inspector for the district in which the farm is situate, visits and reports to the Medical Officer of Health. Further action is taken if necessary according to the provisions of the Regulations.

Diseased meat is condemned and afterwards cremated in the town's destructor.

The stalls, shops, stores and vehicles are under the supervision of the Inspectors and the provisions of the Regulations are being complied with.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

A public slaughterhouse has been provided and this is conducted satisfactorily.

There is only one private licensed slaughterhouse in the town. This private slaughterhouse (occupied by a wholesale butcher) was licensed many years prior to 1920.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 80 Bakehouses and on the whole they are in a fairly good condition.

OTHER PREMISES.

There are in addition to the Bakehouses, 104 other premises where food is prepared.

The various workshops, bakehouses, etc., where food is prepared are kept under strict supervision.

The amount of food surrendered or condemned as unfit for human consumption is as follows—

(a) Tuberculous carcases and parts—Approximate weight, 3,863 lbs., taken from 25 Beasts and 36 Pigs.

(b) Diseased, unsound or unwholesome meat, other than above—Approximate weight, 8,058 lbs., taken from 505 Beasts, 143 Sheep, 3 Calves and 19 Pigs.

(c) Other Foodstuffs—100 lbs. Apples, 50 Rabbits, 189 lbs. Sheep Feet, 42 lbs. Pears, 142 lbs. Fish (Graylings).

It was not necessary to institute any legal proceedings.

There have been no cases of food poisoning reported to me during the year.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

Fifteen samples of cows' milk were purchased by the Inspectors and submitted for analysis. The whole of the samples were found to be genuine.

We have not taken any action during the year in respect of Condensed Milk Regulations, 1923, Dried Milk Regulations, 1923, or the Milk and Cream Regulations, 1912-1917.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.

The only noteworthy fact in relation to Infectious Diseases was that which occurred during 1925 when two cases of Paratyphoid Fever were notified. Upon inquiry into these cases it was found that the patients (females) were members of a party of six who had spent a month's holiday in Southern France and on the Mediterranean shore. The illness which manifested itself about 10 days after their arrival home, suggested either Typhoid or Mediterranean Fever. Bacteriological examination confirmed "Paratyphosus B." From conversation with the patients it was elicited that one other member of the party was ill at Lytham St. Annes suffering from pneumonia. The Medical Officer of Health communicated with the Medical Officer of Health for Lytham St. Annes regarding the case. The two cases referred to were removed to Bull Hill Hospital. Both made a good recovery.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING THE YEARS 1920-1925.

YEAR.	Diphtheria and Croup.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhoid Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Tuberculosis.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Measles & German Measles.	Pneumonia	Malaria.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Dysentery.	Poliomyelitis.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Trench Fever.	Total.
1920	18	9	37	2	3	32	3	126	10	5	...	...	...	...	...	245
1921	10	5	24	1	1	31	...	13	7	3	1	1	1	3	1	102
1922	7	8	220	4	1	46	3	951	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	1246
1923	6	10	147	2	4	53	2	239	9	...	1	...	...	3	...	476
1924	2	6	37	...	5	42	4	...	34	..	...	...	...	5	...	135
1925	6	9	33	3	4	45	2	...	89	...	...	...	1	5	...	197

All other cases of Infectious Diseases occurring throughout the years under review were sporadic ones.

Under the Diphtheria Anti-toxin Order of 1910 a supply of Anti-toxin is kept at the Health Office, and the amount supplied free of charge to local practitioners during 1925 was 80,000 units. In addition there was also 25 c.c. of Meningococcal Serum used. The Anti-toxin is promptly used.

We have had sporadic cases of Encephalitis Lethargica. The cases had no connection with each other.

We have discovered no " return " cases of Scarlet Fever.

Cases of Pneumonia occurring locally do not exceed the average for the country generally.

LABORATORY WORK.

The Corporation have an arrangement with the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester, for the examination of Pathological and Bacteriological specimens, the Corporation paying the necessary fees.

The number of Bacteriological Examinations is as follows—Blood 4, Sputum 18, Throat Swabs 17, others 2 (Fæces).

In addition the Tuberculosis Officer's Department (Dr. MacPhee's) have examined 132 specimens of Sputum with a positive result in 16 cases and a negative result in 116.

Table showing the number of Pathological Specimens which have been sent for examination to the Public Health Laboratory, Victoria University, Manchester.

YEAR.	Diphtheria.				Typhoid Fever.				Tuberculosis Sputum.			Cerebro-Spinal Fever. Spinal fluid			Cerebro-Spinal Fever. Swabs.		
	Positive.	Negative.	Doubtful.	Total	Positive.	Negative.	Doubtful.	Total	Positive.	Negative.	Total	Positive.	Negative.	Total	Positive.	Negative.	Total
1912.....	7	4	...	11	...	...	...	...	7	11	18	...	...	...	..	..	...
1913.....	8	8	...	16	1	7	...	8	28	33	61	...	...	...	...	...	...
1914.....	4	9	1	14	6	2	...	8	65	57	122	...	...	...	...	...	...
1915.....	...	12	...	12	2	4	...	6	58	60	118	1	...	1	..	2	2
1916.....	6	7	...	13	1	4	1	6	74	50	124	...	1	1	...	3	3
1917.....	8	16	1	25	1	8	...	9	56	64	120	...	...	...	...	...	...
1918.....	4	4	1	9	2	1	...	3	42	76	118	...	...	...	...	...	...
1919.....	7	8	1	16	...	...	...	...	34	59	93	...	...	...	...	...	...
1920..... ...	8	11	1	20	2	...	...	2	38	48	86	...	...	...	...	...	...
1921.....	9	20	...	29	1	4	...	5	10	21	31	...	...	...	...	...	...
1922.....	5	9	...	14	5	5	...	10	2	13	15	...	...	...	...	...	...
1923.....	8	23	2	33	2	4	...	6	3	12	15	...	...	...	...	...	...
1924.	...	4	...	4	...	1	...	1	...	17	17	...	...	...	...	...	...
1925.....	5	12	...	17	3	1	...	4	2	16	18	...	...	...	...	...	...

No use has been made of the tests known as the Schick and Dick Tests, in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever respectively, or of the recently developed artificial methods of immunization against these diseases.

No vaccinations have been performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the provisions of the Public Health (Smallpox) Regulations, 1917.

It has not been necessary to make any of the following diseases compulsorily notifiable— Measles, Whooping Cough, Diarrhœa (under 2 years), Chicken-pox, or any other disease.

Number of times School Closure adopted for—Scarlet Fever, Nil ; Diphtheria, Nil ; Measles, Nil ; Whooping Cough, Nil ; Chicken-pox, Nil ; Influenza, Nil ; Any other Diseases (specify same) ; Mumps, Once.

Number of Special Reports made under Art. XIX. (15 and 16) Sanitary Officers' Order, 1910?—Nil.

No special inquiries have been undertaken in connection with epidemics from Influenza.

A special inquiry and experimental investigation was undertaken by the Medical Officer of Health regarding the question of Spinners' Epithelioma Scroti. A separate report on the subject has been issued.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

The number of houses disinfected during the year was 134. The Disinfecting medium used being either Sulphur or Formalin.

A new disinfecting station and modern apparatus has been erected near the centre of the town on a site adjoining the Electricity Works at Shorey Bank. This station came into use during January, 1925, and the following is a summary of the articles disinfected :-

LIST OF ARTICLES DISINFECTED DURING 1925.

Beds	Mattresses	Bolsters	Pillows	Quilts	Blankets	Sheets	Suits of Clothes	Carpets	Rugs	Curtains	Cushion	Shawls	Sundries
112	9	79	143	77	124	58	8	1	0	0	1	4	105

Total articles Disinfected, 721.

Arrangements have been made for bathing verminous, etc., persons if occasion arises.

Disinfestation was carried out in two instances and in a number of cases the bedding was destroyed

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Number of cases of infectious disease notified, number of deaths from these diseases, number of cases removed to hospital, and deaths in hospital during the year 1925 :—

Disease.	Cases Notified.													Hospital.		Total Deaths
		Years.														
	Total Cases at all Ages.	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	2 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over	Total Cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district.	
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	33	...	2	...	1	5	10	10	2	2	1	...	...	21	...	...
Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup	6	...	...	...	3	1	1	...	...	1	.	...	...	...	...	2
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	1	2	...	..	3	...	...
Acute Primary Pneumonia Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	89	4	1	2	2	4	5	4	4	22	13	22	6	4	2	2
Puerperal Fever	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	1	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Acute Polio-encephalitis	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	1	...	2	...	3
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	2	2	1	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	33	...	2	1	..	...	1	3	6	10	6	4	...	22	7	25
Other forms of Tuberculosis...	12	...	...	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	1	...	...	3	...	7
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any other diseases notifiable in district, *e.g.*:—																
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.	...	...	...	...	...
Measles (excluding German Measles) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Any other disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals...	197	6	6	4	7	11	18	22	15	45	26	29	8	58	9	59

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths (The number of deaths classified should agree with the total supplied by the Registrar-General).			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years.								
0—1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
1—5	2	1	3	...	1	...	2	1
5—10	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
10—15	2	1	3	2	...	1	1	...
15—20	2	4	...	1	1	1	...	...
20—25	2	3	...	1	1	3	...	...
25—35	3	2	...	...	2	2	...	1
35—45	4	2	1	...	5	2	...	...
45—55	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
55—65	3	1	...	...	2	1	...	...
65 and upwards ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	19	14	7	5	15	10	3	4
Totals	33		12		25		7	

Specify the ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths?—1 to 16.

Cases are fairly efficiently notified. No action has been taken.

There is no evidence of excessive incidence, or mortality from tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district.

Twenty-five cases of Tuberculosis were sent to various sanatoria and hospitals for surgical cases. Fourteen of these were discharged and four died before the end of the year.

The Examination of Sputum on Discharge was positive in 7 cases, negative in 1, in 4 cases there was no examination result, while in the remaining 3 cases there was no sputum.

The Consumptive Patients from Darwen were sent to the following Institutions :—

4	Patients to	Bull Hill, Darwen.
3	,,	Aitken, Holcombe.
3	,,	Meathop, Grange.
3	,,	Shelf, Halifax.
2	,,	Observation Hospital, Bury.
2	,,	Heath Charnock, near Chorley.
2	,,	Burnley, Burnley.
2	,,	Elswick, near Kirkham.
1	Patient to	High Carley, Ulverston.
1	,,	Wolstenholme, near Liverpool.
1	,,	Heath Charnock, near Chorley.
1	,,	David Lewis Northern, Liverpool.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

Under these Regulations action was taken in one case. A farmer was notified to us suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and was advised to leave his farm. This he did after selling the farm.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925. SECTION 62.

We have had no occasion to take action in respect of this section.

Notification of Infectious Diseases in each Ward, and for each Month of the Year 1925.

MONTHS.	CENTRAL.							WEST-CENTRAL				NORTH-EAST.					NORTH-WEST.						SOUTH-EAST.				SOUTH-WEST.					BOROUGH							Total.
	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia	Puerperal Fever.	Ophthalmia Neon.	Poliomyelitis.	Tuberculosis.	Pneumonia.	Erysipelas.	Tuberculosis.	Enceph. Leth.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Tuberculosis.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid Fever.	Pneumonia.	Erysipelas.	Tuberculosis.	Enceph. Leth.	Scarlet Fever.	Pneumonia.	Erysipelas.	Tuberculosis.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhoid Fever.	Pneumonia	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Tuberculosis.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid Fever.	Pneumonia.	Puerperal Fever.	Ophthalmia Neon.	Poliomyelitis.	Erysipelas.	Tuberculosis.	Enceph. Leth	
JANUARY ...	...		1	1	...	...	1	.	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	..	2	.	3	1	...	.	3	1	...	16
FEBRUARY	1	..	1	...	...	.	1	3	1	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	1	2	...	...	3	...	5	1	2	1	...	...	1	...	3	...	...	1	2	..	...	12	...	...	...	1	8	1	31
MARCH	...	..	3	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	.	...	...	11	1	..	...	2	1	...	15
APRIL	...	...	3	.	...	...	2	1	..	1	...	...	1	6	...	1	2	1	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	2	1	1	...	17	...	...	...	2	7	...	28
MAY	...		2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	..	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	1	...	3	...	...	1	2	..	...	10	...	...	...	..	5	1	18
JUNE	1	...	1	...	1	..	3	1	..	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	6	...	1	...	..	5	1	13
JULY	...	...	..		...	..		1	...	...	1	...	...	3	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	4	...	...	2	.	..	...	8	...	...	...	..	5	2	15
AUGUST	1	...	...	..	1	...	.	1	.	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	..	.	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	.	...	3	..	1	...	1	1	...	9
SEPTEMBER	.	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	..	...	1	...	..	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	..	1	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	2	1	..	...	...	2	...	9
OCTOBER ..	1	1	2		...	...	1	2	..	...	...	.	...	1	...	..		2	2	..	3	...	..		1	..	...	...	.	...	2	...	...	1	4	3	..	11	...	..	...	.	2	...	20
NOVEMBER	.	.	2	...	...	1	...	...	..	1	.	3	...	...	...	..	3	1	...	1	2	...	...	.	..	.	..	.	1	...	1	...	...	1	5	..	1	5	...	...	1	...	5	...	17
DECEMBER	...	.	...	...	...	...	...	.	..	...	...	4	...	1	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	1	..	...	...	..	..	1	...	...	1	...	...	7	...	...	1	1	...	..	...	3	.	12
TOTALS ..	3	1	16	1	2	1	11	12	1	3	2	12	2	17	1	3	12	9	3	1	14	1	8	3	5	11	2	2	4	2	19	2	2	9	33	6	3	89	4	2	1	9	45	5	197

RETURN OF VACCINATION FOR DARWEN, 1925.

MONTHS.	Successful Vaccination.	Died Unvaccinated.	Insusceptible.	Exempted.	Postponed.	Removed out of Town and Traced.	Removed and Cannot Trace	Unaccounted for.	Successfully vaccinated each quarter.
January ...	22	6	0	29	1	0	0	0	
February ...	13	3	0	16	0	1	0	1	
March	21	5	0	23	1	0	0	1	56
April.....	16	0	0	32	0	0	0	2	
May	16	4	0	26	0	0	0	1	
June	13	1	0	28	0	0	1	0	45
July	11	1	0	20	0	0	0	0	
August	14	6	0	21	0	0	1	3	
September..	10	3	0	20	0	0	0	7	35
October.....	14	6	0	24	0	0	0	13	
November..	5	1	0	15	1	0	0	18	
December...	1	3	0	12	0	0	0	27	20
	156	39	0	266	3	1	2	73	156

VACCINATION.

Year	Births	Successfully Vaccinated	Rate per cent Vaccinated
1916	562	200	35.58
1917	427	153	34.43
1918	353	116	32.86
1919	495	134	27.07
1920	845	195	23.07
1921	753	231	30.67
1922	674	169	24.92
1923	602	208	34.55
1924	636	178	27.98
1925	546	156	28.57

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Two Health Visitors have been appointed and we have established two Maternity and Child Welfare Centres. Two sessions are held weekly at the Bolton Road Centre, and one at the Greenfield Centre. Advice is given daily by the Health Visitors at Bolton Road Centre to any mothers between the hours of 9 to 10 a.m., and 4-30 to 5-30 p.m. The Medical Officer of Health attends one session each week for ante-natal work. Children up to 5 years are weighed and record cards are kept.

The following are particulars of the work of the Health Visitors—

First Visits	489
Second and Subsequent Visits	2769
Visits to Children over 1 year and under 5 years	3116
Visits to Expectant Mothers	453
Visits re Stillbirths	9
Visits to Babies suffering from Ophthalmia Neonatorum—First	2
Visits to Babies suffering from Ophthalmia Neonatorum—Second and Subsequent Visits	9
Visits to Babies suffering from Measles and other infectious diseases..	537
Other Special Visits	270
	7654

The following particulars were obtained on first visits—

Feeding—

Breast	320
Bottle	107
Breast and Bottle	62
	489

Types of Bottles Used—

Bottles without Tubes (including medicine bottles, etc.)	137
Bottles with Glass Tubes	21
Bottles with Rubber Tubes	11
	169

Foods—

Cow's Milk (undiluted)	16
Cow's Milk and Water	85
Cow's Milk and Barley Water	24
Cow's Milk Citrated	3
Nestle's Milk	4
Dried Milk	23
Patent Foods	14
	169

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

	Bolton Road.		Greenfield.
Number of children who have been weighed during the year	360	...	130
Babies specially examined by the Medical Officer	135	...	25
Babies referred to Family Doctor for Treatment	70	...	9
Babies recommended for Institution Treatment	50	...	10
Average Attendance of Expectant Mothers per Session	2	...	1
Average Attendance of Mothers per Session	29	...	15
Average Attendance of Children per Session	28	...	17

The following is a summary of cases which were examined by the Medical Officer of Health at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, and found to be suffering from some type of deformity requiring special treatment.

ADMITTED TO BLACKBURN ROYAL INFIRMARY.

No.	Condition.	Result.
1	Separation of Epiphisis.	Cured.
1	T. b. Meningitis.	Improved.
1	Marasmus.	Cured.
2	Tonsils and Adenoids.	Awaiting operation.
1	Umbilical Hernia.	Cured by operation.
2	Phimosis.	Cured by operation.
1	Nystagmus.	Under treatment.

ADMITTED TO QUEEN'S PARK HOSPITAL, BLACKBURN.

No.	Condition.	Result.
3	Early Rickets.	One improved, two refused treatment.

REFERRED TO FAMILY DOCTOR.

No.	Condition.	Result.
1	Tuberculosis.	Improved.
3	Phimosis.	Cured by operation.
1	Osteitis.	Improving.
1	Injury at Birth.	Cured.
2	Bronchial Catarrh.	Cured.
1	Blepharitis.	Cured.
1	Cut hand.	Cured.

PARTICULARS OF INDIVIDUAL CASES SPECIALLY EXAMINED BY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Defect.	No.
Strabismus	2
Blepharitis	2
Tonsils and Adenoids	2
Bronchitis	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1
Snuffles	1
Eczema	3
Impetigo	1
Nævus	1
Ringworm	3
Cut Hand	1
Simple Rashes	4
Umbilical Hernia	3
Birth Injuries	1
Phimosis	5
Hydrocephalus	1
Cretinism	1
Undescended Testicle	1
Tubercular Basal Meningitis	1
Tubercular Cervical Glands	1
Constipation	3
Diarrhœa and Vomiting	6
Re. Feeding	6
Marasmus	4
Rickets	10
Convulsions	1
	67

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACTS.

Table showing the number of Births Notified during 1925.

	Male.	Female.	Total.	Stillborn
JANUARY	30	25	55	3
FEBRUARY	15	21	36	0
MARCH	25	27	52	2
APRIL	23	18	41	1
MAY	22	24	46	1
JUNE	19	18	37	1
JULY	26	22	48	1
AUGUST	21	21	42	0
SEPTEMBER	16	27	43	0
OCTOBER	21	29	50	5
NOVEMBER	23	19	42	0
DECEMBER	33	21	54	2
	274	272	546	16

Births Notified by Midwives	506
Births Notified by Medical Men	18
Births Notified by Parents	3
Births Notified by Midwives and Medical Men	19
Births Notified by Parents and Medical Men	0
Births Notified by Parents and Midwives	0
Births Notified by Others	0
Total	546

Table showing Births Notified, Visits, Etc.

Year.	Births Notified.				Births not Notified.		Births Visited.		Births Revisited
	Males.	Females	Total.	Still-born.	No.	Prose-cutions.	No.	% of Total	
1916	272	292	564	27	9	0	421	78.2	596
1917	224	204	428	20	8	0	397	92.8	1370
1918	180	168	348	19	11	0	320	91.9	1477
1919	266	273	539	34	3	0	442	82.0	1294
1920	448	432	880	58	6	0	709	80.5	1054
1921	395	380	775	39	11	0	431	55.6	1111
1922	335	337	672	30	10	0	472	70.2	1157
1923	303	326	629	33	5	0	596	100.0	2545
1924	331	310	641	26	3	0	593	92.5	3989
1925	274	272	546	16	9	0	489	89.5	2769

DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Year	Premature Birth	Convulsions	Bronchitis & Pneumonia	Diarrhœal Diseases	Whooping Cough	Measles	Inanition	Congenital Defects	Other Causes	Total	Rate per 1000 Births
1916	13	2	9	2	2	1	4	3	15	51	91
1917	9	1	14	5	1	...	4	...	16	40	89
1918	3	...	4	2	...	3	1	1	12	26	74
1919	15	2	11	1	1	...	8	8	11	57	115
1920	18	1	12	1	...	...	15	3	29	79	93
1921	12	1	11	...	1	...	3	7	18	53	70
1922	8	3	9	...	2	4	4	6	20	56	83
1923	12	3	6	...	...	1	2	9	14	47	78
1924	15	...	8	4	...	...	6	3	7	43	67
1925	13	2	12	...	1	7	2	9	19	65	119

DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE IN MONTHS.

	Under 1 Month	Under 2 M'ths	Under 3 M'ths.	Under 4 M'ths.	Under 5 M'ths.	Under 6 M'ths.	Under 7 M'ths.	Under 8 M'ths.	Under 9 M'ths.	Under 10 M'ths.	Under 11 M'ths.	Under 12 M'ths.	Total.
Deaths	26	4	6	5	6	2	5	2	...	6	1	2	65
Percentage of Total .	40.0	6.1	9.2	7.7	9.2	3.0	7.7	3.0	...	9.2	1.5	3.0	...

Table showing Infantile Mortality in the Various Wards.

Year.	C.	W.C.	N.E.	N.W.	S.E.	S.W.	Boro.'
1916	109	25	140	107	59	55	91
1917	164	77	76	79	59	104	89
1918	38	57	95	63	133	34	74
1919	154	42	108	185	73	131	115
1920	84	111	114	77	98	68	93
1921	63	47	97	87	50	53	70
1922	131	64	79	64	75	74	83
1923	119	70	81	59	63	64	78
1924	97	114	82	40	62	52	67
Average for 9 yrs.	106	67	96	84	74	70	84
1925	106	162	74	79	151	208	119

We have no local Maternity Home or Hospital for the reception of expectant and nursing mothers and young children.

The incidence of maternal mortality is 6 deaths in 546 births. The Medical Officer of Health and the Health Visitors make detailed inquiries in regard to maternal deaths, stillbirths and infant deaths. All the information is filed.

During the year, 159 expectant mothers have been advised, as required, at the Centres or at their homes. Of these cases all had successful confinements, no illness, no deaths resulting in any of them.

The Poor Law Authorities deal with cases of unmarried mothers, illegitimate children, and children temporarily or permanently deprived of a home with their own parents.

We have made arrangements for a supply of milk in necessitous cases. The total of free milk grants during 1925, was valued at £35 10s. 0d. The applicants for this grant fill up a form ; inquiries are made regarding the social conditions and income of applicants and a graded scale is worked to before any grant of free milk is made.

If any children under 5 years of age require orthopædic treatment they are sent to Queen's Park Hospital where there is a special open-air block for that purpose. Three children were sent by us for admission and treatment during 1925.

We have a Voluntary Care Committee, consisting of about 40 ladies resident in the town who interest themselves in the work of the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre. Three of this number are members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee. In this connection there is a Mothers' Club which meets one evening every fortnight at the Maternity Centre. A course of lectures and practical demonstrations is given. There is also a Savings Scheme in connection with the Mothers' Club.

All children have record cards and when each child attains the age of 5 years the card is transferred to the School Medical Department.

Year	Puerperal Fever Notific.	Total Births	Deaths		Still Births	Infantile Mortality Rate
			Puerperal Sepsis	Other Accidents or Diseases of Pregnancy		
1920	3	845	4	2	58	93
1921	1	753	0	3	39	70
1922	1	674	0	3	30	83
1923	4	602	2	1	3	78
1924	5	636	4	3	26	67
1925	4	546	0	6	16	119

The maternal deaths occurring in the years 1924 and 1925, producing a high maternal mortality rate have caused me to make strict enquiries in regard to these deaths, with the object of ascertaining if any preventive means could be suggested for the future.

These enquiries give the following facts.

In 1924,

Case A.—Placenta Prævia, hæmorrhage. Primipara.

Case B.—Ante-partum Eclampsia. Primipara.

Case C.—Puerperal Insanity. Primipara.

Case D.—Placenta Prævia, hæmorrhage.

Case E.—Puerperal Sepsis. Scarlet Fever in house.

Case F.—Puerperal Sepsis. Scarlet Fever in house.

Case G.—Puerperal Sepsis.

Case A.—This woman's sister also died from hæmorrhage at her first confinement.

Case B.—Was an In-patient Blackburn Royal Infirmary, and died there.

Case C.—Died in Queen's Park Hospital, Blackburn.

Case D.—Died in Blackburn Royal Infirmary.

Case E.—A child in this house was found by the Medical Officer of Health to be suffering from Scarlet Fever, and was occupying the same room as the deceased. This child was removed immediately to the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Case F.—Similar to E; a child was found by the Medical Officer of Health desquamating, and gave evidence of being about the third week of illness, due to Scarlet Fever.

Case G.—No definite cause could be found to explain this case.

The seven cases were attended to as follows—

In Institutions—Cases B., C. and D.

At Home—Attended by District Nursing Association Midwives—Cases E. and G.

Attended by General Midwives—Cases A. and F.

In all these cases medical men were engaged for the confinement and also a midwife.

All the cases except Case F. represented good families, residing in good sanitary houses, situated in the best areas in the town.

In 1925.

During this year 6 maternal deaths occurred.

Case 1.—Post-partum hæmorrhage.

Case 2.—Pulmonary Tuberculosis—Acute.

Case 3.—Ruptured Ectopic Gestation, hæmorrhage.

Case 4.—Post-partum hæmorrhage.

Case 5.—Post-partum concealed hæmorrhage.

Case 6.—Dystocia, shock.

As in 1924, all these cases belonged to the comfortable middle class section of the population. In each case, a midwife belonging to the District Nursing Home was engaged, and also a medical attendant.

In Case No. 1 the family physician had the woman under his personal observation for some time previous to her confinement.

Cases No. 3 and 5 were sent to the Blackburn Royal Infirmary for surgical treatment.

From the results of all my enquiries, I am of opinion that every care and attention was given by midwives, medical men, and the Institutions, in these trying and difficult cases. Further I am convinced that none of these cases were suitable cases for a Maternity Home.

During 1924—184 Expectant Mothers attended the Ante-natal Clinics at our Centre, and the Nurses made 765 visits to their homes.

During 1925 - 159 Expectant Mothers attended, and the Nurses visits numbered 453.

At the Clinics and when the Nurses pay their visits, the Mothers are advised concerning their personal hygiene, the requirements for the coming event, and practical demonstrations concerning these are given. It is interesting to note that no deaths or illness occurred amongst these mothers, all passing through good confinements.

We are encouraging in every way this section of our work, and hope it will increase.

INFANTS ATTENDING THE CENTRES.

During 1924, two hundred and fifteen babies born in 1924 attended. Seven died within 12 months, giving an infantile mortality rate of 32.5.

During 1925, one hundred and sixty-nine babies born in 1925 attended the Centre, six dying within twelve months, giving a rate of 35.5.

When it is considered that at the Centres we get many ailing babies, these rates are good and must be encouraging to the work of Health Visitors.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

During the six years the decline in the number of Still Births deserves attention, and must be examined in relation to the infantile mortality on the one hand, and the number of births on the other hand.

The number of births has rapidly fallen from 845 in 1920, to 546 in 1925. The Still Births have had a more rapid fall, yet the Infantile Mortality Rate, although it gradually fell from 93 per 1,000 births in 1920, to 67 in 1924, rose to 119 in 1925, when the Still Births reached their lowest figure.

Upon examining the deaths which occur during the first month of life, and particularly during the first 14 days, one is led to the conclusion that there is a close relationship between the fluctuations of the actual still births and actual deaths, during the first few days of life. If the still births in 1925 had the same relation to the total births in 1925, as the still births in 1920 had to the births in 1920, the infantile death rate of 1925 would have been amongst the lowest of the series.

The facts are these. Of the infant deaths in 1925, twenty-three were due to congenital conditions at birth, and weakly children much under weight. Of these, 4 died within 1 hour ; 8 lived over 1 hour but died within 24 hours ; while 11 others died on or before the 11th day ; making 23 deaths on or before the 11th day.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

CASES.						
Number Notified	Treated.		Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
	At Home.	In Hospital.				
2	2	0	2	0	0	0

Notable Sanitary Improvements during 1925.—The conversion of pail closets to the water carriage system has further progressed.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

I.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	140	22	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)...	651	44	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	63	1	—
Total	854	67	—

II.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—

	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	No. of Prosecutions.
Want of cleanliness	4	4	1	—
Want of ventilation	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	3	3	—	—
Other nuisances	23	22	—	—

Sanitary accommodation—							
Insufficient	4	...	2	...	1	...	—
Unsuitable or defective	6	...	6	...	1	...	—
Not separate for sexes	1	...	1	...	—	...	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts—							
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s. 101)	1	...	—	...	1	...	—
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100)	16	...	16	...	—	...	—
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report)	—	...	—	...	—	...	—
Total	59	...	55	...	4	...	—

III.—HOME WORK.

Nature of Work.	Outworkers' Lists, Section 107. Lists received from Employers. Sending twice in the year. Outworkers. Lists.	Contractors.	Workmen.
Wearing Apparel—Making, etc.	6	2	5

IV.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

	Number.
Textile Factories	65
Non-Textile Factories	106
Factory Workshops	4
Workshops	242
Workplaces	91
Total Workshops on Register	508

V. OTHER MATTERS.

	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 133, 1901)	—
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 5, 1901)	
Notified by H.M. Inspector	12
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	16
Other	4
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) in use at the end of the year	4

PARTICULARS OF DEATHS IN COTTON TRADE FROM VARIOUS DISEASES.

Borough Population.	Trade.	No. of Employees (approx.)	Year.	Deaths.	15 to 25 M	15 to 25 F	25 to 35 M	25 to 35 F	35 to 45 M	35 to 45 F	45 to 65 M	45 to 65 F	65 & up M	65 & up F	Total M	Total F	Death Rate	Boro' Death Rate	Boro'	*Rate up to 15 yrs.
39,182	Weavers	9626	1920	Respiratory	...	1	1	...	2	1	2	3	3	2	8	7	1.55	13 01	2.88	2.57
				Others	...	4	...	5	2	2	8	10	1	3	11	24	3.63	...	10.13	12.14
	Winders and Warpers	1970	1920	Respiratory	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	3	1.52	...	...	...
				Others	...	...	...	2	...	3	...	3	...	1	...	9	4.56	...	..	...
	Cardroom Hands	400	1920	Respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	..	...	...	1	2.50	..	...	...
				Others	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	...	. .	...
	Spinners	300	1920	Respiratory	1	...	..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	6.66	...	...	...
				Others	...	..	.	...	...	...	1	...	4	...	5	...	16.66	...	...	...
38,720	Weavers	9100	1921	Respiratory	2	1	1	2	2	1	3	...	1	2	9	6	1.64	11.57	2.42	3.28
				Others	2	3	2	2	1	3	9	3	8	3	22	14	3.95	...	9.15	9.14
	Winders and Warpers	1860	1921	Respiratory	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0.53	...	...	...
				Others	. .	1	...	3	...	1	...	6	..	...	...	11	5.91	...	..	...
	Cardroom Hands	400	1921	Respiratory	.	...	...	..	...	...	...	1	...	.	...	1	2.50	...	...	..
				Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2.50	...	...	...
	Spinners	300	1921	Respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	...	...	...
				Others	..	..	...	...	2	...	...	...	3	...	5	...	16.66	...	...	...
38,800	Weavers	9000	1922	Respiratory	1	1	2	2	1	4	5	1	4	1	13	9	2.44	14.45	4.09	4.71
				Others	2	3	..	1	1	3	6	8	10	2	19	17	4.00	...	10.36	9.85
	Winders and Warpers	1800	1922	Respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	1.11	...	...	...
				Others	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	3	...	8	4.44	...	...	...
	Cardroom Hands	400	1922	Respiratory	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	2	...	..	..	2	5.00	...	...	...
				Others	..	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	5.00	...	...	...
	Spinners	300	1922	Respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	..	1	...	1	..	3.33	...	...	...
				Others	..	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	3.33	...	...	...
38,980	Weavers	9000	1923	Respiratory	..	5	1	1	1	...	3	1	5	1	10	8	2.00	13.54	3.49	2.57
				Others	...	3	1	3	...	4	10	7	16	5	27	22	5.44	...	10.05	10.14
	Winders and Warpers	1710	1923	Respiratory	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	6	3.48	...	...	...
				Others	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	3	1.74	...	..	...
	Cardroom Hands	400	1923	Respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	...	...	...
				Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	...	...	...
	Spinners	300	1923	Respiratory	...	...	..	..	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	3.33	...	...	...
				Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	4	...	13.33	...	...	...
39,060	Weavers	9000	1924	Respiratory	1	7	3	5	2	2	6	3	3	2	15	19	3.77	14.90	3.52	2.75
				Others	3	4	2	7	2	6	7	5	11	4	25	26	5.66	...	11.38	6.37
	Winders and Warpers	1720	1924	Respiratory	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	..	2	...	...	5	2.90	...	...	...
				Others	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	8	4.65	...	...	...
	Cardroom Hands	400	1924	Respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	5.00	...	...	...
				Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2.50	...	...	...
	Spinners	300	1924	Respiratory	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3.33	...	...	...
				Others	..	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	...	3	1	13.33	...	...	...
38,850	Weavers	9000	1925	Respiratory	...	5	2	3	4	2	2	1	3	3	11	14	2.77	14.13	4 01	4.75
				Others	...	3	...	4	2	3	7	8	8	2	17	20	4.11	...	10.12	9.25
	Winders and Warpers	1720	1925	Respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	0.58	...	...	...
				Others	.	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	6	3.48	...	...	...
	Cardroom Hands	400	1925	Respiratory	..	.	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2.50	...	...	...
				Others	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2.50	...	...	...
	Spinners	200	1925	Respiratory	..	..	...	...	...	...	..	...	1	...	1	...	5.00	...	...	...
				Others	..	...	...	..	1	...	1	...	1	..	3	...	15.00	...	...	...

Child Population (estimated) 8,000. (Birth to age 15 years).

Meteorology.

The Meteorological Observatory is at Bold Venture Park in Lat. 53° 41′ 25″ N., and Lon. 2° 28′ 32″ W., and is at an altitude of 728 feet above mean sea level.

Observations are taken twice daily at 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.

This station is connected with the Meteorological Office, and is called a Normal Climatological Station. A report, giving all details of readings, is sent each month to the Meteorological Office, London.

The total rainfall for the year is 1339.1 millimetres, or 52.72 inches being recorded on 227 days ; the average for the last nineteen years being 55.32 inches. The greatest monthly fall was in February 228.3 millimetres ; and the lowest in June 6.6 millimetres. The greatest daily fall was 39.8 millimetres, on August 21st.

The total sunshine registered on 277 days during the year was 1204.2 hours, the average for nineteen years is 1143.0 hours. June registered the highest monthly total, 237.5 hours ; and January the lowest, 29.1 hours. The highest daily reading was 13.1 hours, on June 9th.

The mean minimum temperature in shade was 40.5°, being equal to the average for the last nineteen years, which was 40.5°. The lowest monthly mean was in December, 31.5°, and the lowest reading for the year 23.1°, on December 2nd.

The maximum wind velocity was on December 31st, when a West South-West wind was blowing at the rate of 54 miles per hour.

No observations of calm were recorded, 29 observations of snow, 17 observations of hail, 7 observations of thunder, thunderstorm on 11 days, 31 observations of hoar frost, 153 observations of mist, 103 observations of ground frost, 7 observations of snow lying, 61 observations of fog, 3 observations of gale, 87 observations of dew, 2 observations of wet fog, and 1 observation of lightning.

MEAN METEOROLOGICAL READINGS FOR 1924 AND 1925.

MONTH.	Barometer Corrected		Thermometers.														Humidity.		Sunshine (hours).		Rain (m.m.)		Wind Velocity.		Wind Direction, 1925.								
			Maximum.		Minimum.		Mean.		Earth. 1 Foot.		Earth. 4 Feet.		Earth. 10 Feet.		Water.																		
	1924 ins.	1925 ins.	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924 %	1925 %	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	C'm
January	29.904	30.130	41.9	43.4	34.3	35.3	38.1	39.3	37.3	38.5	39.6	42.1	43 3	45.6	40.7	41.6	85	83	24.7	29.1	109.7	104.2	13	15	0	0	3	4	26	9	17	3	0
February	30.068	29.545	39.7	42.7	32.1	33.1	35.9	37.9	37.2	38.1	39.9	41.0	42.8	44.0	40.1	40.7	82	84	33.1	41.4	38.6	228.3	13	14	0	0	0	2	17	13	22	2	0
March	29.894	30.199	44.4	43.4	30.9	33.6	37.5	38.5	36.7	39.3	38.3	40.2	41.7	43.0	39.5	41.6	72	80	134.1	83.1	53.4	63.1	11	13	9	7	1	0	1	5	29	10	0
April	29.872	29.833	48.4	49.8	35.0	36.5	41.7	43.1	42.6	44.6	40.6	42.7	41.6	43.1	43.3	44.0	77	75	123 8	137.6	64.3	86.9	11	14	1	7	2	2	17	6	19	6	0
May	29.828	29.753	56.5	57.8	43.1	43.5	49.8	50 1	50.9	51.6	45.8	46 7	43.1	44.5	47.3	48.1	80	79	125.8	119.3	179.6	128.8	10	10	0	1	4	4	15	17	20	1	0
June	29.989	30.150	61.7	68.3	47.4	48.3	54.5	58.3	57.5	60.7	51.2	53.0	46.3	47.3	51.0	51.7	80	73	126.9	237.5	90.1	6.6	11	9	8	4	1	2	2	3	28	12	0
July	29.845	29.924	63.8	69.3	50.1	52.2	56.9	60.7	59.2	62 0	54.4	55.9	49.2	50.0	52.5	53.8	80	79	130.4	144.7	145.2	69.4	12	10	0	10	6	2	8	5	27	4	0
August	29.793	29.952	61.1	65.2	49.5	51.2	55.3	58.2	58.1	60.5	55 2	56.6	51.3	52.2	52.1	53.6	85	83	114.2	124 5	238.8	141.6	11	9	2	3	2	4	14	12	22	3	0
September	29.765	29.937	59.1	56.6	48.2	45.0	58.6	50.8	55.0	53.9	54.3	54.4	52.0	52.9	50.9	50.5	83	83	91.2	101.5	146.6	137.8	13	10	1	0	1	1	12	8	23	14	0
October	29.880	29.855	53.5	54.2	43.5	43 4	48 5	48.8	49.2	50.0	51.0	51.3	51.4	51.6	48.1	48.7	84	84	96.4	64.3	140.7	170.5	11	10	0	6	0	4	14	10	21	7	0
November	30.038	29.985	47.5	42.1	39.0	32.7	43.2	37.4	43.6	38.9	46.9	46.0	49.4	49.8	45.1	42.4	83	79	49.5	82.0	91.9	110.9	11	8	9	8	6	8	12	3	10	4	0
December	29.350	29.717	45.8	39.5	38.9	31.5	42.3	35.5	42.4	34.5	45.0	39.6	47.4	45.9	45.0	39.6	86	84	11.6	39.2	193.5	91.0	14	12	1	2	5	0	12	13	16	13	0
Totals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1061.7	1204.2	1486.4	1339.1	...	...	31	48	31	33	150	104	254	79	0
Mean	29.893	29 915	51.9	52.6	41.0	40.5	46 8	46.5	47.4	47.7	46.8	47 4	46.6	47.4	46 3	46.3	81	80	88.4	100.3	123.8	111.5	11	11	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...

REPORT

OF THE

Sanitary Inspectors

FOR THE

Year ending 31st December, 1925.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE,

DARWEN,

March, 1926.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my 35th Annual Report as Sanitary Inspector for the year ending December 31st, 1925.

The districts covered by the report are the Central, South-East and South-West Wards.

The undermentioned table gives the area, number of houses and population :—

	Area in Acres.	Houses.	Estimated Population.
CENTRAL WARD	110	1666	6334
SOUTH-EAST WARD	1900	1783	6873
SOUTH-WEST WARD	1980	1719	6144

NUISANCES.

The number of complaints of nuisances, etc., received during 1925 was 144, in 1924 the total was 115. The complaints were chiefly from offensive smells, choked W.W. closets, etc., and were remedied as soon as possible.

NUISANCE INSPECTION.

The following is a summary of work done during 1925—

Nature of Inspections.	Unabated Dec. 31 1924.	Number of Inspections.	Number of Notices Served.		Result of Service of Notices.			
			Legal.	Preliminary.	Nuisances abated.	Remaining in hand.	Prosecutions.	
							Instituted.	Pending
Dwelling Houses	...	1479	273	402	540	93	...	...
Houses under Housing, &c., Acts	...	68	8	32	32	2	...	...
Factories and Workshops	...	250	2	23	20	2	...	...
Bakehouses	...	149	2	4	3	...	...	...
Dairies and Cowsheds	...	121	19	6	24	...	...	...
Smoke Observations	...	44	...	...	...	...	...	...
Infectious Diseases	...	92	...	...	...	...	...	...
Refuse Tips	...	101	...	...	...	...	...	...
Elementary Schools	...	27	...	...	12	...	...	...
NUISANCES—		Number Discovered						
Defective Drains	1	64	14	44	59	6	...	...
Uneven Slop Gullies	6	17	6	15	17	4	...	...
Defective W.C.'s	3	32	8	23	31	4	...	...
Defective Downspouts and Easing Troughs	14	131	25	124	119	26	...	...
Insanitary Yards	2	2	...	2	2	...	...	...
Dirty Houses	2	29	22	27	22	9	..	...
Dirty Closets	2	7	2	4	8	1	...	...
Accumulations of Refuse	16	76	13	73	88	4	...	..
Nuisances from Animals	...	2	1	1	2	...	...	...
Insanitary Ashpits	...	3	...	3	3	...	...	...
Ashes Tubs without Covers	4	23	9	20	22	5	...	...
Broken Sloppipes	6	23	12	19	22	7	...	...
Choked Waste Water Closets	1	30	7	25	31	...	...	...
Broken Ashtubs	3	2	1	5	5	...	...	...
Dangerous Closets, Walls, &c	1	3	1	1	4	...	...	...
Insanitary Urinals	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	...
Insufficient Closet Accommt'n	1	1	...	1	2	...	...	...
Broken Yard Doors, &c	4	29	12	29	28	3	...	...
Insufficient Ventilation	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	...
Defective Roof	...	8	2	4	6	2	...	...
Defective Window	...	11	2	5	10	1	...	...
Insanitary Manure Pits	...	3	1	2	2	1	...	...
Pail Closets	...	143	140	...	120	20	...	...
Miscellaneous	3	6	1	5	7	2	...	...

PAIL CLOSET CONVERSIONS.

DARWEN CORPORATION ACT, 1899.

The conversion of pail closets has taken up a considerable time of the work in the district.

Statutory and preliminary notices were served to abolish pails and convert to water carriage system and the number converted was as follows—

	Central Ward.	South-East Ward.	South-West Ward.	Total.
Waste Water Closets Converted ...	6	2	6	14
Pail Closets Converted	92	17	9	118

The whole of the pail closets in Central Ward have been abolished.

Sixty-six new W.C.'s have been constructed.

Sixty-one Baths have been provided together with a number of wash-basins, etc.

One hundred and two agreement forms were signed in the Health Office for work to be carried out by the Highways Department in the district—

	No.
To Convert Pail Closets	24
To Open Choked Waste Water Closets	23
To Repair Defective Drains	20
To Connect Downspouts to Sewer	8
To Open Choked W.C.'s	7
To Contruct New Drains	13
To Convert Waste Water Closets to W.C.'s	6
To Remove Refuse	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The number of notifications received were 92 in 1925, in 1924 they were 72, and in 1923, the total was 219.

The following table gives a list of notifications in the three Wards for 1924-1925 -

WARD	Scarlet Fever		Typhoid Fever		Diphtheria		Erysipelas		Puerperal Fever		Consumption		Ophthalmia		Poliomyelitis		Pneumonia		Encephalitis	
	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1025	1924
Central	3	9	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	11	5	2	0	1	0	16	5	0	1
South-East...	5	6	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	2	8	0	0	0	0	11	10	0	3
South-West..	4	7	2	0	0	2	2	0	2	1	9	8	0	1	0	0	19	2	0	0

As soon as possible after the notification has been received the houses are visited and all particulars regarding the patient and premises are obtained. Verbal and printed instructions are given to those in charge of the patient to prevent the spread of the disease.

In case of removal of the patient to Hospital or on the recovery of the case the rooms are fumigated and bedding removed for disinfection.

During the year five cases of Scarlet Fever and two Typhoid Fever cases were removed to Hospital.

Number of cases Visited	70
Number Disinfected	54
Number of Beds Disinfected	38

Where children are attending school from an infected house notices are sent to the Education Office, the Headmaster of the School and the Public Library.

BLACK SMOKE.

During 1925 I took 44 smoke observations, each of one hour's duration.

The time limit in force in the Borough is—

1, 2 or 3 Boilers	5 minutes per hour.
Over 4 Boilers	7 minutes per hour.

The following is a summary of observation—

Chimneys observed, 22. Number of observations, 44.

	Black.	Moderate.
Amount of smoke in minutes	133	802
Average amount in minutes	3	18

The average in the previous 5 years was—

	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
Minutes	2	2¾	3½	3	3

The following is a list of Boiler Stoking Apparatus, etc., in connection with works in the district—

Name of Works	Trade	Boilers	Fires	Size of Boiler	Stoking Apparatus	Economiser
Albert Mill	Cotton Spinning	2	4	30ft. x 8ft.	Hand	Greens
Bowling Green	Weaving	3	6	30ft. x 8ft.	Procters	Greens
Britannia	Weaving	2	4	30ft. x 8ft.	Procters	Greens
Culvert	Dyeing	1	2	24ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Hand	none
Cotton Hall (Whipps)	Weaving	1	2	28ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Benniss's	Greens
Darwen Spinning	Spinning	2	4	30ft. x 8ft.	Hand	Greens
Darwen Paper	Paper	10	18	32ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Hodkinson	Greens
Ellenshaw	Weaving	1	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Hand	Greens
Ellison Fold	Laundry	1	1	18ft. x 6ft. 6in.	Hand	none
Greenfield, Old	Weaving	1	2	30ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Procters	Greens
Greenfield, New	Weaving	1	2	30ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Procters	Greens
Hampden	Weaving	1	2	30ft. x 8ft. 4in.	Procters	Greens
Highfield	Weaving	1	2	28ft. x 7ft.	Hand	none
Hanover	Weaving	1	2	28ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Hand	Greens
Holme	Weaving	1	2	30ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Procters	Greens
Hope	Weaving	2	4	30ft. x 8ft.	Proctors	Greens
India Mill	Spinning	4	8	30ft. x 9ft.	Hand	Greens
Marsh House	Weaving	1	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Hand	Greens
No. 1 Spinning	Spinning	2	4	30ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Whittakers	Greens
New Mill	Weaving	2	4	30ft. x 8ft. 3in. 30ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Procters	...
New Bridge	Weaving	1	2	30ft. x 7ft.	Whittakers	Greens
Newton Street	Laundry	1	1	7ft. 6in x 3ft. 6in	Hand	none
Perseverance	Weaving	1	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Hand	Greens
Primrose	Weaving	1	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Procters	Greens
Progress	Weaving	1	2	30ft x 7ft.	Procters	Greens
Premier	Weaving	1	2	30ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Procters	Greens
Pipe Works, Hoddles'n	Sanitary Pipes	3	6	30ft. x 8ft. 30ft. x 7ft. 6in. 19ft. x 6ft.	Hand	Greens
Rose Mill	Weaving	1	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Procters	Greens
Rosehill	Soap	1	1	14ft- x 6ft.	Hand	none
Springfield (Sough)	Weaving	1	2	28ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Hand	Greens
Spring Vale	Paper	5	10	30ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Vicars	Greens
Sudell Side	Weaving	1	2	28ft. x 8ft.	Procters	Greens
Starkie Street		1	2	28ft. x 8ft.	Procters	Greens
South Street	Weaving	1	2	33ft. x 9ft. 6in.	Hand	Greens
Sunnybank	Laundry	1	1	16ft. x 5ft. 6in.	Hand	...
South End	Weaving	1	2	32ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Procters	Greens
St. Paul's, Hoddlesden	Weaving	1	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Proctors	Greens
Tackfield	Weaving	1	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Hand	none
Two Gates	Weaving	1	2	27ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Proctors	Greens
Vale Brook	Weaving	1	2	30ft. x 7ft.	Proctors	Greens
Vale Rock	Weaving	1	2	25ft. x 8ft.	Hand	Greens
Waterfield	Weaving	1	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Benniss's	Greens
Whitehall	Weaving	1	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Procters	Greens

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS ORDER.

The number of inspections made to Farms and Dairies during 1925 was 121.

There are 54 Farms within the South-East and South-West Wards. Fifty are used for the housing of cattle and 4 are used for the rearing of young stock, pigs or poultry.

The water supply on the farms is fairly good and the utensils, milk-cans and water troughs have been kept clean, although in two or three cases I have had to complain of the water troughs and the cattle requiring cleansing.

On October 30th a case of Foot and Mouth Disease broke out at Stand Farm, Hoddlesden. Twenty head of cattle were destroyed and burnt, and the whole of the farm buildings, etc., were thoroughly disinfected.

Owing to the vary stringent regulations relating to the movement of cattle, the siding at Darwen Station where cattle arrived for slaughter was inspected every few days and recommendations were made to the Railway Co. for alterations to be made to the siding for better cleansing purposes.

The following Nuisances were remedied—

Repairs to Windows in Dairy	5	New Dairy provided	1
Additional light in Shippon	1	Repairs to Shippon Roof	2
Repairs to Downspouts	5	Repairs to Shippon Doors, etc...	2
Repairs to Manure Pit	2	To Limewash and Cleanse	2
Repairs to Shippon Stalls	2	Repairs to Drains	2

HOUSING STATISTICS.

INSPECTION, &c.

Unfit dwellinghouses—

(1) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1479
(2) No. of dwellinghouses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925)	68
(3) No. of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	0
(4) No. of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under No. 3) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	0

REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT THE SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

No. of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	0

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Acts, 1925—

1. No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 0

2. No. of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after the service of formal notice 0

   (a) By owners 0

   (b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0

3. No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which closing orders became operative in pursuance of owners declaration to close same.. 0

B.—*Proceedings under the Public Health Acts—

1. No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 21

2. No. of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice 21

   (a) By owners 21

   (b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0

C.—Proceedings under Section 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act of 1925—

1. No. of representations made with a view to the making of closing orders 0

2. No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which closing orders were made 0

3. No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which closing orders were determined, the dwellinghouses having been rendered fit ... 0

4. No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which demolition orders were made 0

5. No. of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders 0

D.—No. of dwellinghouses demolished voluntarily by owners or converted to workshops 0

* Refers only to action taken in reference to housing defects. Notices with regard to drainage and other defects should be included under Sanitary Inspections.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Under the Factories and Workshops Acts, 1901 to 1907, it is the duty of the Local Sanitary Authority to enforce the Sanitary provisions relating to Workshops.

The following is a copy of the table required to be furnished to the Home Office—

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

I.—INSPECTION

Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Inspections.	No. of Written Notices.	No. of Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	30	4	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	330	20	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers premises included in Part 3)	15	—	—

II.—DEFECTS FOUND.

*NUISANCES UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector of Factories.	Prosecutions.
Want of Cleanliness	3	3	1	—
Want of Ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances	9	8	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation—				
Insufficient	1	1	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	3	3	1	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—

	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector of Factories.	Prosecutions.
Offences under F. and W. Acts—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses	—	—	—	—
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (s.s. 97 to 100)	—	—	—	—
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers Order, 1921)	—	—	—	—

* Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

III.—HOME WORK.

OUTWORKERS LISTS. SECTION 107

Lists received from Employers sending twice in the year.

Nature of Work.	Lists.	Outworkers. Contractors.	Workmen.
Dressmaking	2	1	2

IV.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

	No.
Textile Factories	32
Non-Textile Factories	12
Factory Workshops	4
Workshops	97
Workplaces	25
Total Workshops on Register	170

V.—OTHER MATTERS.

MATTERS NOTIFIED TO H.M. INSPECTOR OF FACTORIES.

Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133-1901)	0
Action taken in matters referred by the H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts but not under the Factory and Workshops Acts (Section 5, 1901)	2

Notified by H.M. Inspector	2
Reports of action taken sent to H.M.I.	3
Other	2
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) in use at the end of the year	2

The following gives a list of the various trades carried on in the Workshops in the district—

Confectioners	30	Wheelwright	2
Boot, Shoe and Clogs	24	Tinplate Works	1
Smiths	3	Clog Iron Maker	1
Firewood Dealers	3	Plumbers	6
Waste	3	Slay Maker	1
Stocking Knitters	2	Wagon Repairer	1
Cabinet Maker	2	Quarries	2
Fertilizer Works	1	Reed Maker	1
Bakers	5	Hay Chopping	3
Dressmakers	16	Tailors	9
Wood Turner	1	Mineral Works	1
Laundries	3	Iron Foundries	2
Cycle Repairer	1	Dye Works	2
Painters	4	Pipe Works	2
Soap Maker	1	Dry Soap Works	1
Rope Maker	1	Tarpaulin Maker	2
Joiners	13		

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Inspections were made at the varoius Day Schools within the district. Particulars of all nuisances and defects were sent to the Secretary of Education and the matters remedied.

The following is a list of nuisances abated—

Defective Drains	2
Defective Downspouts	4
Closets requiring Limewashing	3
Defective Urinals	2
Accumu'ations of Refuse	1

INSPECTION OF FOOD.

The Fish and Fruit Market and Wholesale Market are continually under observation and periodical inspections are made to premises where all kinds of meat and foods are prepared for sale for human consumption, special attention has been given to Chip and Fish Shops and premises were Ice Cream is made. The following is a list of food condemned as unfit—

1 cwt. 2 qrs. 21 lbs. Sheep Feet.

42 lbs. Pears.

142 lbs. Graylings.

100 lbs. Apples.

50 Rabbits.

92 lbs. Beef.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS, CINEMAS, ETC.

The several Public Buildings and Cinemas have been periodically inspected and at some of the buildings sanitary defects have been remedied.

SHOP HOURS ACT.

A number of inspections were made on the Market Ground and various parts of the Borough.

Special reports on Dairies, Cowsheds, Shops, Schools, etc., have been submitted to the Health Committee every month together with recommendations for the serving of Statutory Notices under the various Public Health Acts.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM E. MARSDEN, C.R.S.I., M.I.S.A., Etc.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE, DARWEN,

28th MARCH, 1926.

NORTHERN DISTRICT.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

The following is a brief summary of the work carried out by me during the year ending December 31st, 1925. The district is comprised of North-East, North-West and West-Central Wards. During the year 21 new houses were erected by private enterprise and certified, 12 in North-East Ward, 7 in North-West Ward, and 2 in West-Central Ward. At the end of the year there were several houses in course of erection in Laurel Avenue and Hector Road.

The following Table shows number of houses, etc.—

	Houses, 1925.		Estimated Population, 1925.
WEST-CENTRAL WARD	907	.....	3485
NORTH-EAST WARD	2325	.....	9044
NORTH-WEST WARD	1942	.....	6970
	5174	.....	19499

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

Total number of Houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 1670

Number of Dwellinghouses which were inspected under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910 85

Number of Dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 70

Number of Dwellinghouses (exclusive of above mentioned) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation 17

REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OR FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective Dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 12

B.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

1.	Number of Dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	17
2.	Number of Dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied—	
	(a) By Owners	10
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

C.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 11, 14, 15 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1925.

1.	Number of representations made with a view to the making of closing orders	1
2.	Number of Dwellinghouses in respect of which closing orders were made	0
3.	Number of Dwellinghouses in which closing orders were determined, the Dwellinghouses having been rendered fit	0
4.	Number of Dwellinghouses in respect of which demolition orders were made	0
5.	Number of Dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders (Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909)	1
D.	Number of Houses demolished voluntarily by owners or converted to workshops	2

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACTS, 1890-1924.

BURY STREET AREA.

On June 5th, 1924, the Medical Officer of Health made an official representation to the Council regarding the above area. The Council subsequently presented a petition to the Minister of Health under the above-mentioned Acts for an order confirming a scheme made by them for the improvement of the area, the boundaries of which were fully described. The Minister of Health directed a public local enquiry into the subject matter of the petition. Inspector H. A. Chapman, Esq., F.R.I.B.A., held the enquiry in the Municipal Buildings, Darwen, on Thursday, February 26th, 1925, and afterwards inspected the properties in the district.

At the enquiry full particulars were supplied regarding the structural condition of each of the 66 dwellinghouses and 19 other buildings. The reports gave full particulars and measurements of all rooms, floor space, area of windows, street measurements, sanitary accommodation, etc. All defects in buildings, etc., were carefully enumerated and plans were submitted.

Much information was also given regarding the condition of the health of the occupants, nature of employment, distance from place of employment or school, etc., etc. This scheme entailed a great deal of labour and time.

The Plan of the Area in colours giving the result of the enquiry is presented with the Medical Officer's Report.

DIRTY HOUSES.

In the monthly reports submitted to Committee, details were given of certain Houses situated in Green Street, Hutchinson Court, Noble Street, Shorrock Fold, William Street, Bury Street, Robert Street, Back Richard Street and Back Duckworth Street, which were found to be in a filthy condition. Preliminary and statutory notices were served upon the occupiers, and the cleansing was ultimately done to our satisfaction.

GENERAL INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

In accordance with your instructions and the general order of the Ministry of Health, I have endeavoured, by systematic inspection, to keep myself informed in respect of any nuisance existing in the district as the following summary will show.

Total number of Nuisances discovered	567
Letters written respecting Nuisances	98
Informal Notices served respecting Nuisances	547
Statutory Notices served respecting Nuisances	209
Number of Re-inspections	1555
Number of Nuisances abated (including outstanding nuisances from previous year)	504
Number of Houses and Premises inspected	1670
Number of Inspections of Refuse Tips	69
Number of Inspections of Schools, etc.	59
Complaints received and investigated	130
Number of Drains, Water Closets, etc., Tested	21
Number of Smoke Observations Taken	60
Number of Inspections of Factories and Workshops	372
Number of Lodging Houses	52
Number of Inspections of Bakehouses	107
Number of Samples purchased (Sale of Food and Drugs Acts)	15

Number and Nature of Inspections made.	Number Inspections.	Notices Served.		Nuisances Abated.	Nuisances remaining in hand.	Prosecutions instituted
		Statutory.	Informal.			
Dwelling Houses	1670	209	547	504	...	...
Dwelling Houses (under Town Planning Act).....	85	7	27	19	7	...
Schools and Public Buildings...	59	...	8	8	...	...
Factories and Workshops	372	...	27	27	...	...
Dairies and Cowsheds.....	60	...	16	14	2	...
Smoke Observations	60	2	2	2	...	...
Bakehouses.....	107	...	16	16	...	...
Lodging House	52	...	...	...	...	...
Refuse Tips	69	...	...	...	...	...
INFECTIOUS DISEASES—						
Cases Visited.....	104	...	...	...	...	...
Rooms Disinfected.	80	...	...	...	...	...
Loads of Bedding Disinfected	53	...	.	...	...	
NUISANCES—	Discovered					
Defective Drains and Slop Pipes	77	42	77	70	7	...
,, Slop Gullies.....	35	25	35	30	5	...
,, Soil Pipes, W.C.'s, etc.	22	12	22	19	3	...
,, Troughs & Downspouts	149	70	146	140	9	...
Insanitary Yards	18	4	18	16	2	...
Dirty Houses, etc.....	37	19	37	30	7	...
Dirty Closets	5	...	5	5	...	...
Accumulation of Refuse	60	...	60	42	18	...
Nuisance from Animals.....	4	...	4	4	...	...
Dangerous Buildings.....	20	...	20	18	2	...
Broken and uncovered Ashtubs..	16	8	16	12	4	...
Choked Waste Water Closets ...	36	...	36	36	0	...
Insufficient Ventilation of Rooms	26	12	26	23	3	...
Choked Sewers	7	...	7	7	...	...
Burst Water Pipes	18	...	10	18	...	...
Insufficient Water Supply	4	...	4	3	1	...
Conversion of Pail Closets to Water Carriage System	15	15	15	15	...	...
Conversion of Waste Water Closets to Water Closets...	9	0	0	9	...	...
Dry Rot in Room Floors	2	2	2	2	...	...
Defective Gas Pipes	5	0	5	4	1	...
Miscellaneous.....	2	0	2	1	1	...

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

One hundred and four cases were notified, which were distributed as follows :—18 in West-Central Ward, 47 in North-East Ward, and 39 in North-West Ward. Immediately upon receipt of notification of the existence of these cases, the houses were visited and a thorough examination of the premises made, any defects in the drainage, sanitary arrangements, etc., I caused to be remedied as quickly as possible. Sixteen patients suffering from Scarlet Fever, one from Erysipelas, and one from Enteric Fever, were removed under my supervision to Bull Hill Hospital. The rooms previously occupied by the

patients were thoroughly cleansed and disinfected. During the year 80 rooms were fumigated and 53 loads of bedding, etc., disinfected. A complete list of the number of cases of infectious diseases in the various wards is included in the Medical Officer's Report.

BLACK SMOKE NUISANCE.

Sixty observations were taken, each of one hour's duration.

The following Time Limit is in force in the Borough—

One, Two or Three Boilers ... 5 minutes' Black Smoke per hour.
Four or more Boilers ..... 7 minutes' Black Smoke per hour.

In two instances the Time Limit was exceeded and Statutory Notices were served upon the occupiers of the mills calling for abatement of the nuisance.

The following Table of Analysis of Observations shows the average amount of Black Smoke emitted in minutes per hour during the last 10 years—

1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916
2.58	2.27	2.56	2.54	2.73	3.40	3.0	2.70	2.24	2.36

Advantage has again been taken of the mills being closed owing to trade depression and holidays, etc., to carry out repairs of boilers, economisers, stokers, etc. Owing to trade depression several mills have been closed for varying periods during the year and other mills have provided partial employment only.

PARTICULARS OF THE BOILERS, ETC., AT THE VARIOUS FACTORIES IN THE NORTHERN DISTRICT.

Name of Factory	No. of Boilers	No. of Fires	Size of Boiler	Kind of Mechanical Stoker, etc.	Kind of Economisers	Remarks
Anaglypta	2	2	each 28ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Benniss's, Self-feeding, Movable Bars	Greens	Superheaters fixed Also Electric Power
Anchor	1	2	30ft. x 8ft. 0in.	Benniss's, Self-feeding Movable Bars	Greens	
Bank Top	1	2	32ft. 6in. x 9ft.	Proctors, Crossthwaite Bars	Greens	Superheaters
Barley Bank	1	2	32ft. x 8ft.	Proctors	Laweocks	
Belgrave	2	2	32ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Hand Fired, (Bennets Bars)	Greens	
Belgrave			32ft. x 8ft.	Benniss's Movable Bars	Greens	
Brookside	1	2	32ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Proctors, Self-feeding, Movable Bars	Greens	
Bog Height Brick Works.	1	2	30ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Hand Fired	none	
Bottom Croft	2	2	each 30ft. x 8ft.	Hand Fired, Crossthwaite Bars	Greens	
C... r	2	2	each 28ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Benniss's Self-feeding, Movable Bars	Greens	Superheaters
Cobden	1	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Proctors, Movable Bars	Greens	
Cotton Hall, Spinning	2	2	each 32ft. x 9ft.	Benniss's Stoker, Movable Bars	Greens	
Cotton Hall, Weaving	1	2	30ft. x 8ft	Proctors, Movable Bars	Greens	
Dove	1	2	30ft x 7ft. 9in.	Hand Fired	Greens	

PARTICULARS OF THE BOILERS, ETC., AT THE VARIOUS FACTORIES IN THE NORTHERN DISTRICTS - Continued.

Name of Factory	No. of Boilers	No. of Fires	Size of Boiler	Kind of Mechanical Stoker, etc.	Kind of Economisers	Remarks
Earnsdale Waste Works	1	1	16ft. 6in. x 5ft.	Hand Fired	none	Also Electric Power
Eccleshill	1	2	30ft. x 9ft.	Hand Fired Yates & Thom's Bar	Greens	
Electricity	3	2	each 30ft. x 8ft.	Proctors, Movable Bars	Greens	Generally only 2 boilers working
Gas Works	2	2	each 26ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Hand Fired Meldrums Furnace	none	Coke used
George Street (Townsfield)	2	2	30ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Proctors Stoker,	Greens	Forced draught Fan working
George Street			28ft. x 7ft.	Proctors Stoker	Greens	
Glossit Works	1	1	10ft. x 3ft. 6in.	Hand Fired	none	Electric Power
Hollins Grove	2	2	each 33ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Benniss's, Movable Bars	Greens	Also Electric Power
Hillside	1	2	30ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Proctors, Movable Bars	Greens	
Hey Fold	2	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Hand Fired	Greens	
			27ft. x 7ft.			
High Street (Foundry)	1	1	17ft. x 3ft. 6in.	Hand Fired	none	Coke used
Hindle Street	1	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Proctors, Movable Bars	Goodbrands	
Hollins (Low Chimney)	2	2	each 30ft. 8ft. 6in.	Eriths, Grateless	Greens	
Hollins (Tall Chimney)	7	2	30ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Eriths, Grateless	Greens	5 Boilers generally working
,, ,,			Four each 30ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Eriths, Grateless	Greens	
,, ,,			Two 32ft. x 9ft. 6in.	Benniss's, Self-feeding	Greens	Superheater
Lower Wood	1	2	20ft. 6in. x 7ft. 6in.	Proctors	none	
Lorne Street	1	2	32ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Hand Fired	Greens	
Moss Bridge	2	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Proctors, Movable Bars	Greens	
Olive	1	2	32ft. x 9ft.	Benniss's Self-feeding, Movable Bars	Greens	
Orchard (Paper)	1	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Hand Fired Yates & Thom's Bars	none	One chimney
Orchard (Cotton)	1	2	30ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Proctors, Movable Bars	Greens	
Orchard (Commercial)	1	2	30ft. x 7ft.	Hand Fired	Greens	
Peel	1	2	30ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Leach's	Greens	
Provident	1	2	27ft. x 9ft.	Benniss's, Self-feeding, Movable Bars	Greens	
Prospect	1	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Hand Fired	Roberts	Coke used
Queen Street	1	1	14ft. x 5ft. 6in.	Hand Fired	none	Mill run by electric power
Radford	1	2	28ft. x 8ft.	Benniss's, Movable Bars	Greens	
Springfield	1	1	11ft. x 6ft.	Hand Fired Meldrums Fire Box	none	Coke used Mill run by electric power
Sunnyhurst	1	2	30ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Hodgkinson's,	Greens	Hamers expansion joint round boiler Hotchkiss' water circulator
Triperies	1	1	20ft. x 5ft. 6in.	Hand Fired	none	
Model Lodging House	1	1	10ft. x 4ft. 6in.	Hand Fired	none	
Union St. Saw Mills	2	1	Small Portable	Hand Fired	none	Electric power also
Vale Street	1	2	30ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Hand Fired Tetlows Smoke Box	none	
Walpamur	1	2	30ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Hand Fired		
Walpamur	1	1	24ft. x 5ft. 6in.	Hand Fired	none	
Walpamur (Paint Works)	1	1	10ft. 10in. x 3ft. 6in.	Hand Fired	none	Vertical boiler
Woodfold	1	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Proctors, Self-feeding, Movable Bars	Greens	
Woodside	2	2	each 30ft. x 8ft.	Hand Fired	Greens	

In addition to the above there are many Factories and Workshops in the Northern District which are run solely by Electricity or Gas.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

I.—INSPECTION.

Premises.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.
Factories	110	18
Workshops	214	8
Workplaces	48	1
Bakehouses	107	16
Total	479	43

NUISANCES UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

II.—DEFECTS FOUND.

	No. of Defects Found	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	0
Want of Ventilation	1	1	0
Defective Drainage	3	3	0
Other Nuisances	14	14	0
Sanitary Conveniences—			
Unsuitable and Defective or Insufficient	6	4	0
Not Separate for Sexes	1	1	0
Breach of Special Sanitary Requirements (S.S. 97 to 100)	16	16	0
Offences under F. and W. Act—			
Illegal Occupation of Underground Bakehouse	1	0	1

III.—OTHER MATTERS.

Matters Notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories—

Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under Public Health Acts (notified by H.M. Inspector)	10
Reports of action taken sent to Inspector	13
Other	4
Certified underground Bakehouses in use at end of year	2

IV.—REGISTERED FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS, &c.

Textile Factories	33
Non-Textile Factories	94
Workshops	145
Workplaces	66
	338

Four Lists of outworkers making and repairing wearing apparel were supplied to me during the year in compliance with the regulations.

LIST OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES.

Textile Cotton Factories	33	Wholesale Grocers	3
Joiners and Builders	13	Brush Makers	1
Paper and Paint Mills	5	Tea Mixing	1
Engineers and Foundries	10	Painters' Preparation Workshops	7
Printers	3	Polishing Paste	1
Gas and Electricity Works, etc.	3	Block Cutting	3
Waste Sorting Works	4	Herb Beer Making	1
Aerated Water Works	1	Laundry	1
Box Making	1	Paper Bags and Sack Making	2
Picture Framing	5	Tin Plate Works	3
Boots and Shoes	36	Scales and Weights	1
Chipped Potatoes	30	Saddlers	3
Ice Cream	1	Plumbers	8
Dressmakers, etc.	29	Blacksmiths	1
Hay Chopping	1	Tripe Dressing	2
Motor Repairing	7	Cabinet Makers	3
Gut Scraping	1	Marine Stores	2
Tailors	6	Stocking Knitting	2
Metal Broker	1	Electrical Engineers	2
Reed Works	2	Watch Repairing	3
Slay Makers	1	Flock Bed Dressing	1
Wheelwrights	5	Pickle Making	2
Firewood Making	1	Cooper	1
Pork Butchers	5	Metal Engraving	1
Destructor Works	1	Boiler Composition Works	1
Wringing Machine Works	1	Basket Making, etc.	1
Bakers and Confectioners	75		

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

There are 33 farms, with 68 shippons, and 4 milk shops in the Northern District. In addition there are many purveyors of milk whose farms are situated without the Borough. No dairy cows have been kept during the year at Holly Bank Farm. A few farms are used chiefly for rearing young stock. About 500 cows are stalled in the shippons, in additions to young stock and oxen. Improvements were carried out under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Regulations, as follows—

Shippon and Yard Pavement Relaid or Repaired	4
Lighting and Ventilation of Shippons Improved	5
Drains Reconstructed or Repaired	2
Repairs to Watering Trough and Service Pipes	1
New Easing Troughs and Downspouts Fixed	4
Dirty Shippons Limewashed	8
Repairs to Roofage of Shippons	4
Repairs to Dairy	1
Other Work	1

Many repairs of a minor nature were also carried out.

I have continued to watch carefully the water supplies at the various farms.

A sample of water was taken from the private supply at Lower Coney Farm which upon analysis proved to be very satisfactory.

At Turn Lane Farm the water supply has been improved and now appears to be adequate. A new tank has been constructed and pipes laid therefrom to the farm. The possibility of contamination from surface washings has therefore been prevented.

Copies of the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Regulations in force in the Borough have again been supplied to each farmer and purveyor of milk. Each farmer has also been supplied with copies of circulars issued by the Board of Agriculture relating to Foot and Mouth Disease, Anthrax, etc.

INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.

Many Inspections of the 12 Elementary Schools were made particularly during the vacations, viz., Easter, Mid-Summer, and Christmas, to survey the buildings and ascertain if the cleaning had been done in accordance with your requirements, as issued prior to each vacation by Mr. W. Bretherick, Secretary

of Education. The work was done in accordance with instructions. Defects in the buildings, means of ventilation, drainage, and pavement of yards were referred to the Education Department for attention. Many defects were remedied. The Medical Officer of Health accompanied me to many of the Schools.

TRIPERIES, Etc.

Two tripe dressing firms occupy premises at the Corporation buildings adjacent to the Pig Abattoir in James Street West. The greatest possible care is exercised to avoid effluvia nuisances. The waste material is removed daily and cremated.

One gut scraper carries out the preliminary part of his work in separate premises situated at the Public Abattoirs. The casings are sent out of town to be scraped, etc. There was no cause for complaint during the year.

The Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, came in force on April 1st, 1925, the provisions of the Regulations have been strictly enforced.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1875 TO 1907.

During the year I purchased 15 samples of milk and forwarded them to the County Analyst for examination which upon analysis proved to be genuine. Sample No. 53A contained 5.45 per cent. of fat and was therefore a very rich sample of milk.

I have continued to keep a sharp outlook over the various articles of food offered for sale for human consumption in the district and places where food is prepared have been kept under observation. The butchers' shops are regularly visited. For particulars regarding the inspection of meat see the Meat Inspector's Report.

The 30 Chipped Potato and Fried Fish Shops have received attention.

The 15 Wet Fish Shops in the district have been periodically visited and many improvements to the drains, etc., have been effected. Fish offal is removed daily to the Destructor Works.

MODEL LODGING HOUSE.

During the year there has been an increase of 10.30 per month in the number of lodgers when compared with 1924. This is the only common lodging house in the town, a distinct advantage from a public health standpoint. I frequently visited the house, often in the evening after the lodgers had retired to rest, when the number of cubicles occupied was checked and the books examined.

The following Table shows the daily average number of occupants (males and females) for each month during the last 13 years—

	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Jan.	111.3	121.0	84.6	65.3	59.1	53.04	59 12	70.20	94.51	80.61	91.29	82.00	108.64
Feb.	125.2	126.6	86.9	69.1	61.2	54 82	57.90	81.30	92.03	80.25	93.03	81.34	111.39
March	127.2	125.6	85.5	67.2	66.3	53.58	59.90	79.30	90.58	80.15	86.90	84.39	110.93
April	127.4	129.4	109.2	67.2	68 2	57.77	64.27	91.60	89.16	87.26	87.43	97.50	119.83
May	126.2	127.2	88.2	53.1	66.9	54.35	68.70	93.30	79.16	91.41	86.35	98.96	118.94
June	131.8	122.3	84.1	50.7	62.2	55.37	72.00	101.83	78.86	83.96	83.53	97.20	109.13
July	130.1	124.1	75.7	53.1	60.0	51.26	67.24	100.12	76.77	83.45	73.25	94.64	98.41
August	132.9	108.1	73 2	62.1	57.2	48.00	69.23	106.00	76.51	83.16	80.64	98.83	104.35
Sept.	123.1	91.1	66.1	60.2	56 7	53.93	71.24	95.16	69.63	82.00	77.43	96.46	99.63
October.	128.1	94.2	58.1	60.6	57.7	54.90	74.17	89.05	67.90	81.16	75.51	99.48	96.60
Nov.	124.2	87.2	61.2	60.0	51.7	56.47	71.70	84.60	72.83	80.13	73.26	104.9	96.50
Dec.	122.4	79.2	64.9	61.1	51 7	59.19	68.15	88.79	81.22	86.38	78.03	108.8	94.32
Average	125.8	111.3	78.1	60.8	60.0	54.39	66.97	90.02	80.76	83.32	82.22	95.37	105.67

The daily average number of female lodgers for 1925 was 17.48.

INSPECTION OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

There are three Picture Houses in the Northern District which have been regularly inspected during the year. Improvements have been made in the sanitary arrangements at two of the houses and several other minor defects remedied.

CLOSET CONVERSIONS.

During the year 15 pail closets and 12 waste water closets were converted to the water carriage system.

The remaining 25 pail closets would have been converted long ago but difficulties in regard to drainage were encountered. An endeavour is now being made to overcome these drainage problems and convert the closets.

A few pail closets cannot be converted as they are situated at too great a distance from the sewers.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

NATIONAL RAT WEEK, NOVEMBER 2nd to 7th, 1925.

During the preceding week the occupiers of mills, workshops, food stores, farms, warehouses, etc., were communicated with and supplied with copies of the Ministry's Circular No. 264 T.R. The response was good and an earnest endeavour was made to destroy Rodents, etc. The work done proved to be very effective. The various mill owners, farmers, etc., now exercise constant vigilance and a great many more cats are being kept. During the year poisoned bait was placed in selected and suitable places known to be infested and the result was satisfactory. In some infested buildings the drains were found to be faulty, giving Rodents access to the buildings. These were remedied at once.

MANURE PITS.

The midden steads were regularly inspected and precautions were again taken to mitigate the nuisance caused by flies.

OTHER MATTERS.

At each monthly meeting of the Health Committee, in addition to the printed report, I have submitted a detailed type-written statement of the work carried out in my district.

I am pleased to say that the service of Informal and Statutory Notices had the effect of securing the abatement of nuisances.

Many Agreement Forms have been signed by owners of property for the Corporation workmen to carry out repairs, etc., to back yards, drains, closets, etc.

This work has been done under my supervision.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

C. R. WALSH, M.R.San.Inst., M.S.I.A.,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

CORPORATION ABATTOIRS,

POLICE STREET, DARWEN,

March 31st, 1926.

MEAT INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1925.

To the Chairman and Members of the Slaughter House Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

All anima'ls were examined upon arrival at The Abattoirs, where they were penned in the lairages, fed and rested before slaughter. The strictest supervision was at all times maintained to prevent the possibility of ill-treatment and every effort was made to ensure slaughtering being done expeditiously and in as humane a manner as possible.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.

There were many outbreaks of this disease in the country during the year but the Borough was perfectly free from the disease until October 30th, where a beast was certified to be affected at a local farm situated in South-East Ward. The diagnosis was ratified and the whole of the stock, viz., 20 beasts were destroyed.

On Wednesday, December 23rd, another beast was certified to be affected with the disease at a farm in West-Central Ward. This also led to the killing of the whole herd, viz., 7 beasts and 2 calves.

The slaughtering and cremation of the cattle and disinfection of the shippons, etc., at the above farms was done under the direct supervision of officers of the Ministry of Agriculture and Police Inspector Watkinson.

Owing to the infected places being situated within 2 miles of the Public Abattoirs, restrictions were for a time imposed prohibiting the movement of live cattle in the area. Cattle brought into the town from markets, etc., outside of the infected area were conveyed by motors, etc., to the Abattoirs until the area was declared to be free from the disease.

The prevalence of the disease in the country during the year interfered greatly with the movement of cattle to and from the principal markets frequented by our butchers, viz. :—Salford, Birkenhead, Preston, etc. This has no doubt diminished to some extent the number of cattle slaughtered locally during the year 1925.

SWINE FEVER REGULATIONS.

Many pigs from prescribed areas have been delivered to the Abattoirs under license and slaughtered within the time specified.

INSPECTION OF SHOPS.

Many of the retail butchers obtain their supplies from wholesale dealers without the Borough, and large consignments of chilled and frozen meat are brought into the town weekly, necessitating inspection of meat in retail shops.

Consignments of Fresh Meat have been received from Birkenhead, Bolton, Blackburn and Wilpshire, and passed through our Abattoir store rooms.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

These regulations became operative on April 1st, 1925, and the general provisions were immediately enforced in the Borough. A sharp outlook is being maintained to see that the orders are obeyed.

The following Table shows the number of animals slaughtered during the year :—

NUMBER OF CATTLE SLAUGHTERED AT THE ABATTOIRS.

	BEASTS.		SHEEP AND LAMBS		CALVES		PIGS	TOTAL	
	Public	Private	Public	Private	Public	Private	Public	Public	Private
January	111	74	694	421	5	2	123	933	497
February	91	54	521	319	6	2	89	707	375
March	83	57	472	323	5	0	135	695	380
April	79	53	430	313	3	0	115	627	366
May	101	69	592	374	2	1	92	787	444
June	69	52	496	340	3	0	78	646	392
July	52	39	493	310	4	0	40	589	349
August	82	68	690	444	4	2	61	837	514
September	70	54	604	317	1	1	111	786	372
October	105	70	670	399	3	3	127	905	472
November	70	36	413	341	22	3	116	621	380
December	80	48	401	325	14	4	188	683	377
Total	993	674	6476	4226	72	18	1275	8816	4918

During the year it was found necessary to slaughter several animals after the usual hours, either during evenings or week-ends. I was present at the Abattoirs on these occasions. Many visits to farms were also found to be necessary prior to the removal of animals to the Abattoirs.

A great many carcases required special examination. Twenty-five beasts and 36 pigs were found to be affected with Tuberculosis and the entire carcases of two beasts and two pigs so affected were condemned and destroyed. The affected parts of 57 other carcases and internal organs similarly affected were condemned and destroyed. It was also found necessary to condemn and destroy the entire carcases and internal organs of the following animals for reasons stated, viz. :—

One beast Septic Metritis.

Four pigs Hepatitis and Jaundice.

One pig Peritonitis.

One calf Naval Ill and Joint Ill.

Eight sheep Asphyxiated.

One sheep Injuries.

The total amount condemned and destroyed during the year was 11,921 lbs., as follows :—

Number Examined. Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.	Cause.	Weight in Lbs. condemned.
25	—	—	36	Tuberculosis	3863
—	4	—	—	Asphyxiated	160
—	—	—	6	Hepatitis and Jaundiced	595
2	—	—	—	Diseased Udders	25
1	—	—	—	Inflammation	112
1	—	—	—	Pleurisy	58
2	1	2	2	Injuries	342
—	5	—	—	Enteritis	200
—	—	—	1	Peritonitis	40
1	—	—	—	Septic Metritis	570
2	1	—	—	Abscesses	34
—	—	1	—	Naval Ill and Joint Ill	40
398	130	—	10	Fluky and Diseased Livers, etc..	4190
98	2	—	—	Unsound and Bruised Meat	1692
				Total	11921

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

C. R. WALSH, M.R.San.Inst., M.S.I.A.,

Certified Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE,

CLEANSING DEPARTMENT.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report for the year January 1st to December 31st, 1925.

The following is a Summary of Work done—

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.
House Refuse to Destructor	14,612	14	2
Market Garbage to Destructor	252	3	2
	14,864	18	0

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.		
Clinkers removed by motor from Destructor.	5640	0	0...	1128	Loads.
Sweepings to various tips				2190	,,
Sweepings deposited by hand-carts at Destructor				1909	,,
Gully Wreck to various tips				1083	,,
Street Gullies emptied				22712	,,
Length of Streets swept by hand				2707	Miles.
Length of Streets swept by machine				57	,,
Excreta to Sewage Works				525	Loads.
Excreta Pails emptied				11518	
Ashes Tubs emptied				357781	
Ashpits emptied				716	
Water deposited on streets				1358	Loads.
Snow removed from streets				40	,,
Ashes Tubs added during the year				22	
Dust Bins added during the year				101	
Pails brought in from closet conversions				128	

Yours obediently,

JOSEPH NICCOLL,

Cleansing Superintendent.

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